



**Keywords:** the exponential function, natural logarithm, inverse functions.

**Problems for submission**

A1. In this problem you will show  $\exp(x)$  grows faster than  $x^m$ , for any natural number  $m$ .

(a) Let  $m$  be a natural number. Show that

$$\exp(x) \geq s_m(x), \quad \text{for all } x \geq 0.$$

Here  $s_m(x)$  is the  $m^{\text{th}}$  partial sum of the series  $1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$ . (*Hint:  $\exp(x)$  is the limit of the increasing sequence  $(s_m(x))$ .*)

(b) Let  $m$  be a natural number. By considering  $\frac{s_{m+1}(x)}{x^m}$ , show that

$$\frac{\exp(x)}{x^m} \geq \frac{x}{(m+1)!}, \quad \text{for all } x \geq 0.$$

(c) Explain why

$$\frac{\exp(x)}{x^m}$$

is unbounded as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . Deduce that  $\exp(x)$  grows faster than  $x^m$ , for any  $m$ .

A2. (a) Let  $f(x) = 1 + \sqrt{2 + 3x}$ .

i. Determine the domain  $A$  of  $f(x)$ .

ii. Determine the range  $B$  of  $f(x)$ .

iii. Explain why  $f(x)$  is one-to-one.

iv. Determine the inverse function  $f^{-1}(y)$ , taking care to describe its domain and range.

(b) Let  $n$  be a natural number. Consider the function

$$g_n(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x \neq 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \\ x + 1, & \text{if } x = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1, \\ 1, & \text{if } x = n. \end{cases}$$

i. Draw the graph of  $g_5(x)$ . What is its domain and range?

ii. Show that  $g_5(x)$  is one-to-one. Determine the inverse function  $g_5^{-1}(y)$ .

iii. Show that  $g_n(x)$  is one-to-one. Determine the inverse function  $g_n^{-1}(y)$ .

A3. In this problem you will determine the standard logarithm rules using the definition of  $\log(x)$  as an antiderivative of  $1/t$ .

Recall that  $\log(x) = \exp^{-1}(x)$ , the inverse function of  $\exp(x)$ , was determined (October 12 Lecture) to be the function

$$\log(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_1^x \frac{dt}{t}$$

(a) Let  $c > 0$  be a real number. Define  $f(x) = \log(xc)$ . Using the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and the chain rule, show that

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{x}.$$

(b) Deduce that there is some constant  $K$  such that  $f(x) = \log(x) + K$ . (*Hint: if  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  are two functions such that  $g'(x) = h'(x)$  then  $g(x) = h(x) + K$ , for some constant  $K$* )

(c) Show that  $K = \log(c)$ . (*Hint: consider  $f(1)$* ). Deduce that

$$\log(xc) = \log(x) + \log(c) \quad (*)$$

for any  $x, c > 0$ .

(d) Let  $x > 0$ . By considering the fact that  $1 = x \cdot x^{-1}$ , use  $(*)$  to show that

$$\log(x^{-1}) = -\log(x).$$

(e) Let  $x > 0$ . Using induction show that

$$\log(x^n) = n \log(x), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Deduce that

$$\log(x^n) = n \log(x)$$

for any integer  $n$  (not necessarily positive).

A4. Show that

$$\log(x) < x - 1, \quad \text{for any } x > 0.$$

Deduce that  $\log(x) < x^k$ , for any natural number  $k$  and any  $x > 2$ .

### Additional recommended problems (not for submission)

B1. Let  $f(x) = \frac{1-\sqrt{x}}{1+\sqrt{x}}$ .

(a) Show that  $f(x) = \frac{2}{1+\sqrt{x}} - 1$ .

(b) Determine the domain  $A$  of  $f(x)$ .

(c) Show that the range  $B$  of  $f(x)$  is the collection of all real numbers  $-1 < y \leq 1$ .

(d) Explain why  $f(x)$  is strictly decreasing. Deduce that  $f(x)$  is one-to-one.

(e) Determine the inverse function  $f^{-1}(y)$ .

B2. (a) Verify the following identities

$$a^4 - b^4 = (a - b)(a^3 + a^2b + ab^2 + b^3),$$

$$a^5 - b^5 = (a - b)(a^4 + a^3b + a^2b^2 + ab^3 + b^4)$$

(b) Let  $a, b$  be real numbers. Using induction show that

$$a^n - b^n = (a - b)(a^{n-1} + a^{n-2}b + a^{n-3}b^2 + \dots + a^2b^{n-3} + ab^{n-2} + b^{n-1}), \quad n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

*Hint:  $n = 2$  is the base case. For the inductive step consider*

$$a^{n+1} - b^{n+1} = a^{n+1} - ab^n + ab^n - b^{n+1}$$

B3. Define

$$\sinh(x) = \frac{1}{2}(\exp(x) - \exp(-x)), \quad \text{and} \quad \cosh(x) = \frac{1}{2}(\exp(x) + \exp(-x))$$

. We call  $\sinh(x)$  (pronounced *sinch of  $x$* ) the **hyperbolic sine function** and  $\cosh(x)$  the **hyperbolic cosine function**.

(a) Show that  $\sinh(-x) = -\sinh(x)$  and  $\cosh(-x) = \cosh(x)$ .

(b) Show that  $\cosh^2(x) - \sinh^2(x) = 1$ .

(c) Show that

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sinh(x) = \cosh(x), \quad \frac{d}{dx} \cosh(x) = \sinh(x).$$

(d) Use the derivative of  $\sinh(x)$  to explain why it is a strictly increasing function. Deduce that  $\sinh(x)$  is one-to-one.

(e) The domain and range of  $\sinh(x)$  is the collection of all real numbers. Hence, its inverse function  $\sinh^{-1}(y)$  also has its domain and range being the collection of all real numbers. You will now show that

$$\sinh^{-1}(y) = \log(y + \sqrt{y^2 + 1}).$$

i. Let  $x = \sinh^{-1}(y)$ . Show that

$$\exp(x) - 2y - \exp(-x) = 0.$$

Deduce that

$$\exp(x)^2 - 2y \exp(x) - 1 = 0.$$

ii. Use the quadratic formula to show that

$$\exp(x) = y \pm \sqrt{y^2 + 1}$$

iii. Show that  $\exp(x) = y + \sqrt{y^2 + 1}$ . (*Hint:  $\exp(x) > 0$  always. Now, consider  $y - \sqrt{y^2 + 1}$* )

iv. Deduce that

$$\sinh^{-1}(y) = \log(y + \sqrt{y^2 + 1})$$

## Challenging Problems

C1. (\*) In this problem you will show that Euler's number

$$e = \exp(1) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \dots = 2.71828\dots$$

is irrational using a *proof by contradiction* argument. We will assume that  $e$  is, in fact, a rational number (i.e. a ratio of two integers) and derive a statement of absurdity. Hence, it must be the case that  $e$  is irrational (any real number must be either rational or irrational).

Assume that  $e$  is rational. This means that there are two natural numbers  $p$  and  $q$  so that

$$e = \frac{p}{q}$$

We will assume that  $p, q$  satisfy the condition that  $p$  is not a multiple of  $q$ .

(a) Explain why  $q \neq 1$ . Deduce that  $q > 1$ . (*Hint: what would have to be true of  $e$  if  $q = 1$ ?*)

(b) Let  $s_m$  be the  $m^{\text{th}}$  partial sum of the series  $1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$ . Show that  $q!s_q$  is an integer. Deduce that

$$q!(e - s_q)$$

is an integer.

We will now show, by a different argument, that  $q!(e - s_q)$  is *not* an integer. This contradiction of what we've just shown implies that our assumption that  $e$  is rational must be a false assumption. Hence,  $e$  can't possibly be rational, so it must be an irrational number.

Observe that, in the argument that follows, we never make use of our assumption that  $e = p/q$ .

(c) Using the definition of  $e$  as the limit of a series, show that

$$e - s_q = \sum_{n=q+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} = \frac{1}{(q+1)!} + \frac{1}{(q+2)!} + \dots$$

(d) Deduce that

$$q!(e - s_q) = \frac{1}{(q+1)} + \frac{1}{(q+1)(q+2)} + \frac{1}{(q+1)(q+2)(q+3)} + \dots$$

(e) Let

$$a_n = \frac{1}{(q+1)(q+2)\cdots(q+n)}.$$

Show that

$$a_n \leq \frac{1}{(q+1)^n}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Deduce that

$$q!(e - s_q) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(q+1)^n} = \frac{1}{q} < 1.$$

(f) Recall from Problem A1 that  $e > s_q$ . Show that

$$0 < q!(e - s_q) < 1.$$

Conclude that  $q!(e - s_q)$  can't possibly be an integer.

C2. (\*\*\*)