

Logarithmic Manipulation

Recall the following properties of logarithms.

- $\log_b x = y \Rightarrow$
 - $\log_b 1 =$
 - $\log_b x^k =$ _____
 - $\log_b x + \log_b y =$ _____
 - $\log_b x - \log_b y =$ _____
 - (Change of Base) $\log_b x =$ _____
 - (Special Case of #3) $\log_b \frac{1}{x} =$ _____
 - (Special Case of #6) $\log_b a =$ _____
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These problems were pulled from a Western PA ARML practice.

- Let $\log_{10} 70 = m$ and $\log_{10} 20 = p$. Given that $\log_{10} 14 = Am + Bp + c$, where A, B , and C are integers, compute $A + B + C$.
- Compute $(\log_{125} 16)(\log_4 27)(\log_3 625)$.
- What is the value of $\log_3 7 \cdot \log_5 9 \cdot \log_7 11 \cdot \log_9 13 \cdots \log_{21} 25 \log_{23} 27$?
- (2000 AIME II #1) The number $\frac{2}{\log_4 2000^6} + \frac{3}{\log_5 2000^6}$ can be written as $\frac{m}{n}$ where m and n are relatively prime positive integers. Find $m + n$.
- If $\log_b(a) \log_c(a) \log_c(b) = 25$ and $\frac{a^2}{c^2} = c^k$, what is the sum of all possible values of k ?
- (2010 AMC 12A #11) The solution of the equation $7^{x+7} = 8^x$ can be expressed in the form $x = \log_b 7^7$. What is b ?
- (2005 AMC 10B #17) that $4^a = 5, 5^b = 6, 6^c = 7$, and $7^d = 8$. What is $abcd$?
- (2008 AMC 12A #16) The numbers $\log(a^3 b^7)$, $\log(a^5 b^{12})$, and $\log(a^8 b^{15})$ are the first three terms in an arithmetic sequence, and the 12th term of the sequence is $\log b^n$. What is n ?
- (2019 AMC 12A #15) Positive real numbers a and b have the property that

$$\sqrt{\log a} + \sqrt{\log b} + \log \sqrt{a} + \log \sqrt{b} = 100$$

and all four terms on the left are positive integers, where \log denotes the base 10 logarithm. If $ab = 10^k$, what is k ?

- (2003 AMC 12B #17) If $\log(xy^3) = 1$ and $\log(x^2y) = 1$, what is $\log(xy)$?

Hints

1. Use properties of logs.
2. Use change of base.
3. Use change of base.
4. Use properties #3, #8, #3 again, then #4; or rewrite from the beginning (introduce more logs).
5. Use change of base.
6. Split 7^{x+7} first.
7. Take $7^d = 8$ and substitute in $7 = 6^c$. Repeat.
8. Use the arithmetic mean.
9. Let $x = \sqrt{\log a}$ and $y = \sqrt{\log b}$.
10. Use property #4 to split the logs *or* do a variable substitution like in #9.