

Section 4.1

Def: The exponential function f with **base** b is defined by

$$f(x) = b^x \quad \text{or} \quad y = b^x,$$

where b is a positive constant $\neq 1$.

Ex:

$$f(x) = 3^x$$

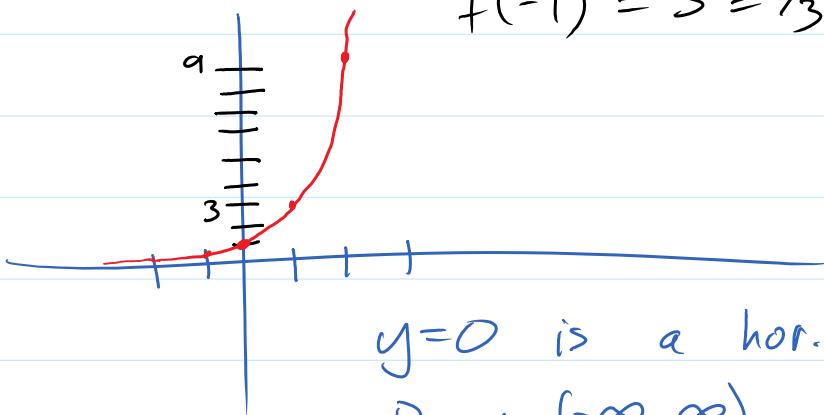
Find: $f(2) = 3^2 = 9$

$$f(3) = 3^3 = 27$$

$$f(1) = 3^1 = 3$$

$$f(0) = 3^0 = 1$$

$$f(-1) = 3^{-1} = \frac{1}{3}$$



$y=0$ is a hor. asymptote.

$$\text{Dom: } (-\infty, \infty)$$

$$\text{Range: } (0, \infty)$$

$$x^{-a} = \frac{1}{x^a}$$

$$\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^{-a} = \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^a$$

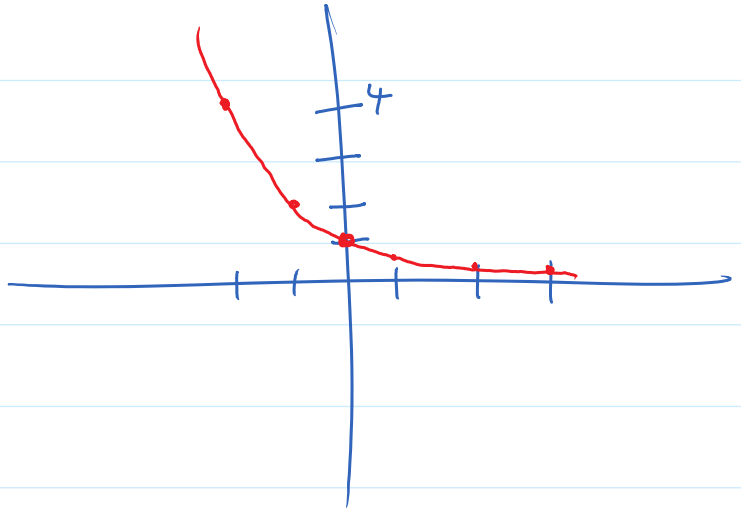
$$f(x) = (1/2)^x$$

Ex: $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x$

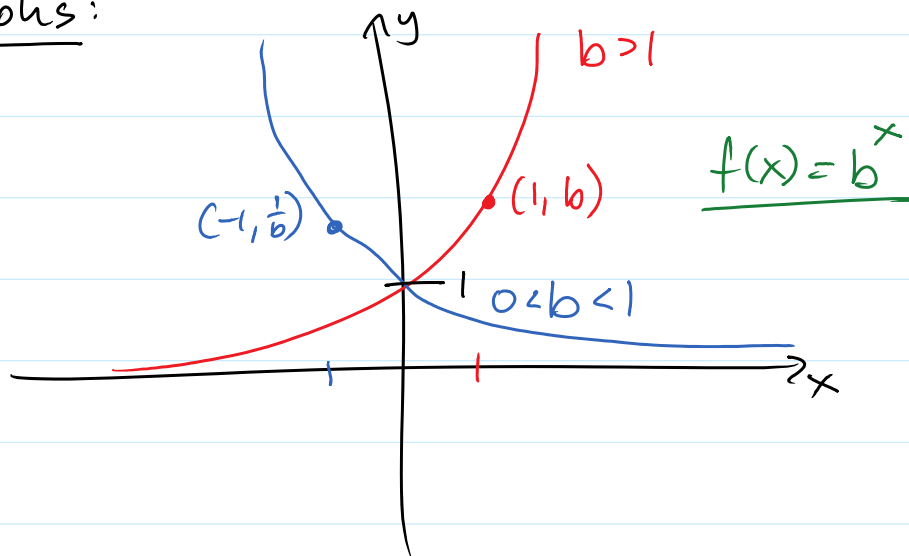
x	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
f(x)	4	2	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-2} = \left(\frac{2}{1}\right)^2 = 2^2 = 4$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} = 2^1 = 2$$



Graphs:

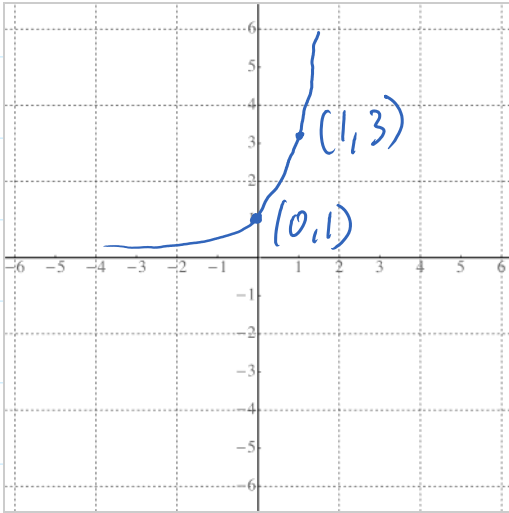


Ex: Use the graph of $f(x) = 3^x$ to graph $g(x) = 3^{x+1}$

graph

graph

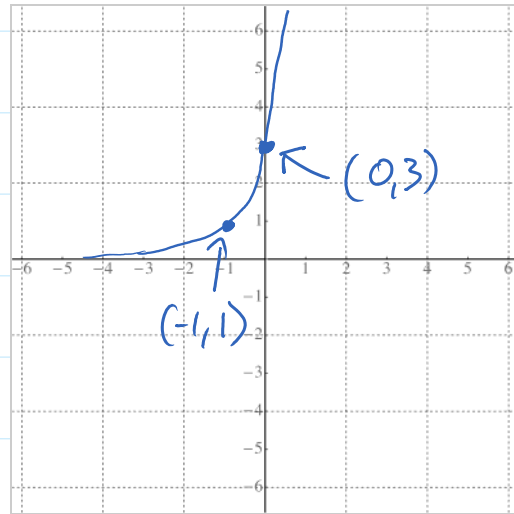
$$3^x$$



$$g(x) = 3^{x+1}$$

hor. shift left by 1

$$3^{x+1}$$



Transformations:

• horizontal stretch/shrink $f(x) = b^{ax}$

shrink

$$\cdot 2^x \longrightarrow 2^{3x}$$

hor. stretch

$$\cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x \longrightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x/3}$$

• hor. shift by a : $f(x) = b^{x+a}$

• ver. shift by a : $f(x) = b^x \pm a$

• ver. stretch/shrink by a : $f(x) = a \cdot b^x$

hor. shift

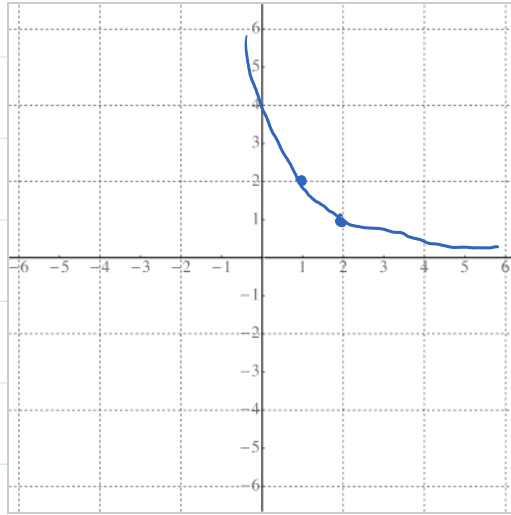
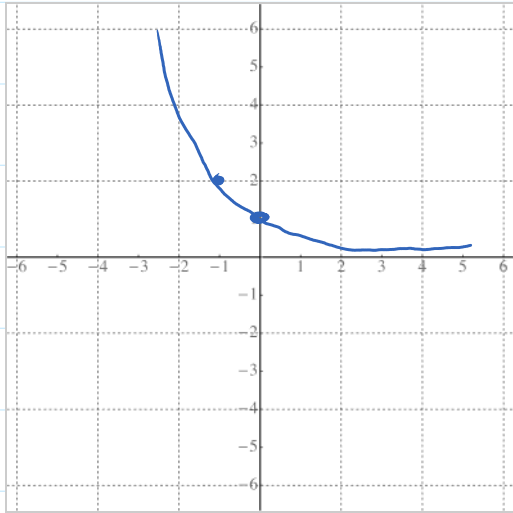
Ex:

Use the graph $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x$ to graph $g(x) = 3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x-2} + 1$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x$$

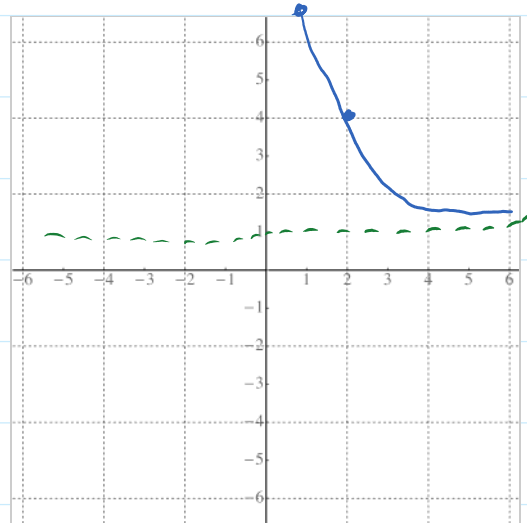
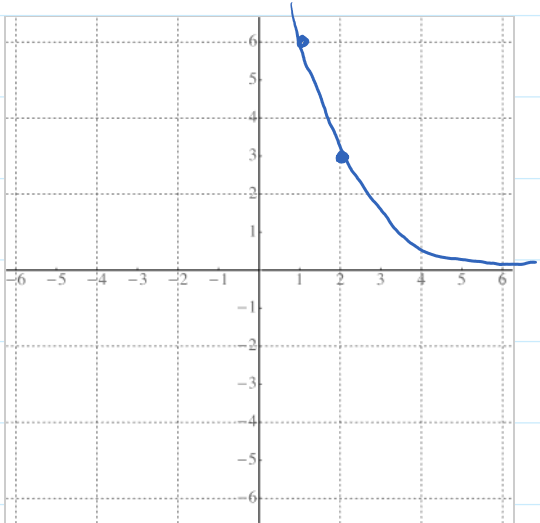
$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x-2}$$

ver. stretch
ver. shift



$$3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x-2}$$

$$3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x-2} + 1$$



The Euler constant: $e \approx 2.718...$

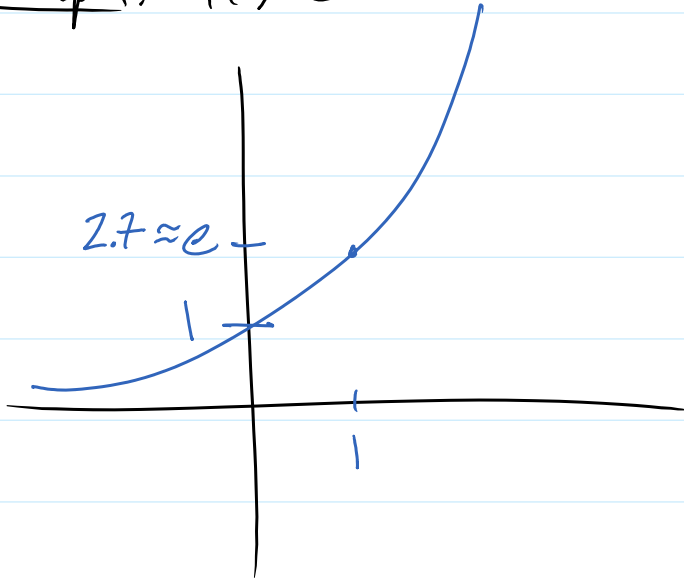
e is the number you get if $x \rightarrow \infty$ of

$$p(x) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x$$

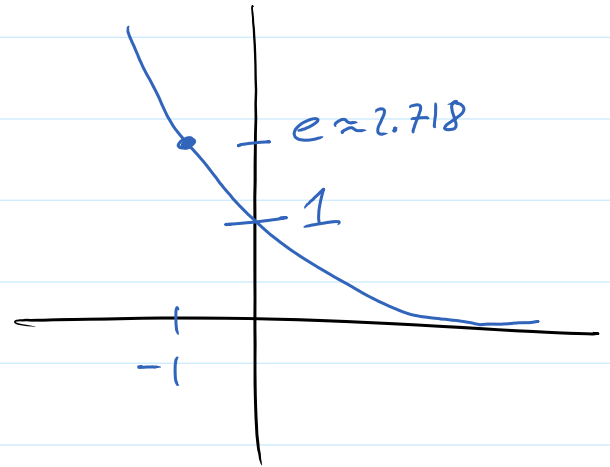
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$$f(x) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x$$

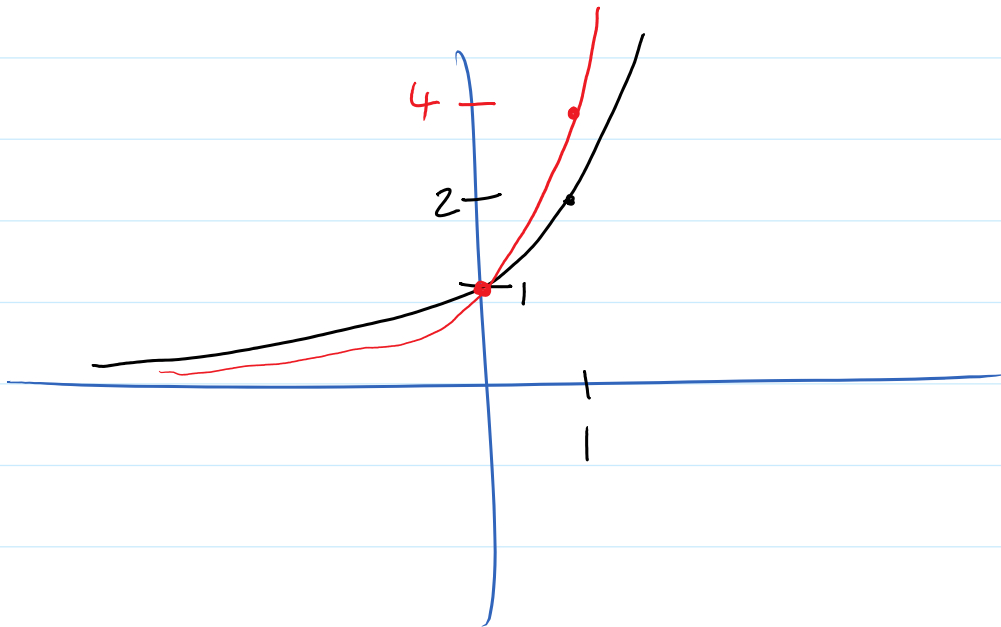
Graph: $f(x) = e^x$



$f(x) = e^{-x}$



Ex: Graph: $y = 2^x$, $y = 4^x$



Section 4.4 (Algebra with exponential equation)

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Rule:

If $b^M = b^N$, then $M = N$.

Solve:

$$\cdot 2^x = 2^4 \rightarrow x = 4$$

$$\cdot 27^{x+3} = 9^{x-1}$$

$$(3^3)^{x+3} = (3^2)^{x-1}$$

$$3^{3x+9} = 3^{2x-2} \rightarrow 3x+9 = 2x-2$$

$$3x - 2x = -2 - 9$$

$$\boxed{x = -11}$$

$$\cdot 2^{3x-8} = 16$$

$$2^{3x-8} = 2^4 \rightarrow 3x-8 = 4$$

$$3x = 12$$

$$\boxed{x = 4}$$

$$-3x-6 \dots$$

$$(x^a)^b = x^{a \cdot b}$$

$$\bullet \quad 5^{3x-6} = 125$$

$$5^{3x-6} = 5^3 \rightarrow 3x-6 = 3$$

$$3x = 9$$

$$\boxed{x = 3}$$

$$\bullet \quad \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2x+1} = 8$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2x+1} = 2^3$$

$$2^{-(2x+1)} = 2^3 \rightarrow -(2x+1) = 3$$

$$-2x-1 = 3$$

$$-2x = 4$$

$$x = -\frac{4}{2} = \boxed{-2}$$