

Mu Alpha Theta National Convention: Denver, 2001  
Logarithms and Exponents Topic Test Solutions – Alpha Division

1. Given that  $\frac{\log_{10} A}{\log_{10} B} = \frac{A}{B} = \frac{2}{3}$ , what are  $A$  and  $B$ , in that order?

(A) 2 and 3      (B) 1 and  $\frac{3}{2}$       (C)  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4$  and  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$       (D)  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$  and  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2$       (E) NOTA

$$\frac{\log_{10} A}{\log_{10} B} = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow \log_B A = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow B^{\frac{2}{3}} = A, \text{ and } \frac{A}{B} = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow A = \frac{2B}{3}, \text{ so we get}$$

$$B^{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{2B}{3} \Rightarrow B^{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow B = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^3, \text{ and } A = \frac{2B}{3} = \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2, \text{ so we get E.}$$

2. Solve for  $x$ :  $\log_5(\log_3(\log_6 x)) = 0$

(A) 216      (B) 125      (C) 36      (D) 243      (E) NOTA

$$\log_5(\log_3(\log_6 x)) = 0 \Rightarrow \log_3(\log_6 x) = 1 \Rightarrow \log_6 x = 3 \Rightarrow x = 6^3 = 216, \text{ so we get A.}$$

3. Evaluate:  $\sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \dots}}}}}$

(A) 3 and -2      (B) 3      (C) -2      (D) 6      (E) NOTA

Consider

$$x = \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \dots}}}}} \Rightarrow x^2 = 6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \sqrt{6 + \dots}}}}} = 6 + x \Rightarrow$$

$$x^2 - x - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (x - 3)(x + 2) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 3 \text{ or } x = -2,$$

but we can count out the negative case, since the sum is positive by inspection. So we get B.

4. Which of the following is equal to  $i^i$ ?

(A)  $e^{i\pi}$       (B)  $e^\pi$       (C)  $e^{\frac{\pi}{2}}$       (D)  $e^{-i\pi}$       (E) NOTA

$$\text{Using } e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}} = \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = i, \text{ we get } i^i = \left( e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}} \right)^i = e^{\frac{i^2\pi}{2}} = e^{\frac{-\pi}{2}}, \text{ which is C.}$$

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5. Solve for  $x$ :  $a^x b^x = c$

- (A)  $\frac{\ln c}{\ln a - \ln b}$     (B)  $\frac{\ln c}{\ln(a+b)}$     (C)  $\log_{ab} c$     (D)  $\frac{\ln c}{\ln a \ln b}$     (E) NOTA

$$a^x b^x = c \Rightarrow (ab)^x = c \Rightarrow \ln(ab)^x = \ln c \Rightarrow x \ln(ab) = \ln c \Rightarrow x = \frac{\ln c}{\ln(ab)} = \log_{ab} c, \text{ since}$$

$$\frac{\log_m x}{\log_m y} = \log_y x, \text{ so we get C.}$$

6. Solve for  $x$ :  $\frac{2}{3} \ln x^3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln x^4 - \frac{1}{2} \ln x^2 = 6$

- (A)  $e$     (B)  $e^3$     (C)  $3^6$     (D)  $e^2$     (E) NOTA

$$3 \ln x = 2 \ln x + 2 \ln x - \ln x = \frac{2}{3} \cdot 3 \ln x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \ln x - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \ln x = \frac{2}{3} \ln x^3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln x^4 - \frac{1}{2} \ln x^2 = 6 \Rightarrow$$

$$\ln x = 2 \Rightarrow x = e^2$$

This gives us D.

7. Solve for  $x$ :  $18^{x^2+2x+4} = (54\sqrt{2})^{x^2+4}$

- (A) 2    (B) 4    (C) 3    (D)  $\frac{3}{2}$     (E) NOTA

$$(3\sqrt{2})^{2x^2+4x+8} = \left( (3\sqrt{2})^2 \right)^{x^2+2x+4} = 18^{x^2+2x+4} = (54\sqrt{2})^{x^2+4} = \left( (3\sqrt{2})^3 \right)^{x^2+4} = (3\sqrt{2})^{3x^2+12} \Rightarrow$$

$$2x^2 + 4x + 8 = 3x^2 + 12 \Rightarrow x^2 - 4x + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow (x-2)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2$$

Which gives us A.

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8. What is the product of the two solutions for  $x$ :  $-\frac{2}{3}\log_x a + \frac{4}{3}\log_{ax} a + \frac{7}{3}\log_{a^2x} a = 0$

(A)  $a$                       (B)  $\sqrt[3]{a^2}$                       (C)  $a^{-1}$                       (D)  $a^{\frac{4}{3}}$                       (E) NOTA

$$\log_c d = \frac{\ln d}{\ln c} = \frac{1}{\frac{\ln c}{\ln d}} = \frac{1}{\log_d c}, \text{ so}$$

$$-\frac{2}{3\log_a x} + \frac{4}{3\log_a ax} + \frac{7}{3\log_a a^2x} = -\frac{2}{3}\log_x a + \frac{4}{3}\log_{ax} a + \frac{7}{3}\log_{a^2x} a = 0 =$$

$$-\frac{2\log_a ax\log_a a^2x}{3\log_a x\log_a ax\log_a a^2x} + \frac{4\log_a x\log_a a^2x}{3\log_a x\log_a ax\log_a a^2x} + \frac{7\log_a x\log_a ax}{3\log_a x\log_a ax\log_a a^2x} \Rightarrow$$

$$-2(1 + \log_a x)(2 + \log_a x) + 4(\log_a x)(2 + \log_a x) + 7(\log_a x)(1 + \log_a x) =$$

$$-2(\log_a a + \log_a x)(\log_a a^2 + \log_a x) + 4(\log_a x)(\log_a a^2 + \log_a x) + 7(\log_a x)(\log_a a + \log_a x) =$$

$$-2\log_a ax\log_a a^2x + 4\log_a x\log_a a^2x + 7\log_a x\log_a ax = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$-4 - 6\log_a x - 2(\log_a x)^2 + 8\log_a x + 4(\log_a x)^2 + 7\log_a x + 7(\log_a x)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$-4 + 9\log_a x + 9(\log_a x)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \log_a x = \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{81 - 4(9)(-4)}}{18} = \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{81 + 144}}{18} = \frac{-9 \pm 15}{18} \Rightarrow$$

$$x = a^{\frac{-9+15}{18}}, \text{ and } a^{\frac{-9-15}{18}} \bullet a^{\frac{-9+15}{18}} = a^{\frac{-18}{18}} = a^{-1}$$

This gives us C.

9. If \$52,000 is invested at a 4% annual rate compounded continuously, how many years (to the nearest year) will it take for it to triple?

(A) 31                      (B) 32                      (C) 19                      (D) 27                      (E) NOTA

$52000e^{.04t} = m(t)$ , where  $m(t)$  is the money at time  $t$ (measured in years), so we must solve the following equation:  $52000e^{.04t} = 3 \bullet 52000 \Rightarrow e^{.04t} = 3 \Rightarrow .04t = \ln 3 \Rightarrow t = \frac{\ln 3}{.04} \approx 27 \text{ years}$ , which is D.

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10. Evaluate:  $\frac{1}{\log_{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)} 144} + \frac{1}{\log_3 144} + \frac{1}{\log_{12} 144}$

- (A)  $\frac{2}{3}$             (B)  $\frac{1}{2}$             (C)  $\frac{3}{4}$             (D) 1            (E) NOTA

Using the formula that we derived for 8, we get

$$\frac{1}{\log_{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)} 144} + \frac{1}{\log_3 144} + \frac{1}{\log_{12} 144} = \log_{144} \frac{1}{3} + \log_{144} 3 + \log_{144} 12 = -\log_{144} 3 + \log_{144} 3 + \log_{144} 12 = \frac{1}{2}$$

Which gives us B

11. Which of the following is equivalent to:  $\frac{1}{2} \ln(9) + \ln(2) + \frac{1}{3} \ln(8^2)$

- (A)  $\ln\left(\frac{167}{6}\right)$     (B)  $\ln(167) + \ln(6)$     (C)  $\frac{11}{6} \ln(1152)$     (D)  $\ln(3) + \ln(8)$     (E) NOTA

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln(9) + \ln(2) + \frac{1}{3} \ln(8^2) = \ln 9^{\frac{1}{2}} + \ln 2 + \frac{2}{3} \ln 8 = \ln 3 + \frac{1}{3} \ln 8 + \frac{2}{3} \ln 8 = \ln 3 + \ln 8, \text{ which is D.}$$

12. How many solutions are there to the following problem:  $x * x^{\frac{1}{x}} = x^x$

- (A) 0            (B) 1            (C) 2            (D) 3            (E) NOTA

By inspection,  $x=1$  is a solution. If  $x^{1+\frac{1}{x}} = x * x^{\frac{1}{x}} = x^x$ , then since

$$x \neq 1 \log_x x^{1+\frac{1}{x}} = \log_x x^x = 1 + \frac{1}{x} = x \Rightarrow x^2 - x - 1 = 0,$$

which has solutions of  $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  and  $\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$ . Thus we get 3 solutions, which is D.

13. If you multiply together the solutions from problem 12, what do you get?

- (A) -2            (B) -1            (C)  $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$             (D)  $\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$             (E) NOTA

Multiplying the above answers gives you  $1 \cdot \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} = \frac{1-5}{4} = -1$ , which is B.

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14.  $A\left(2^{\frac{x}{y}}\right) = B$ . Solve for  $x$  with respect to  $y$ .

- (A)  $y \log_2 A$       (B)  $y \log_2\left(\frac{B}{A}\right)$       (C)  $Ay^2 \log_2 B$       (D)  $\log_2\left(\frac{Ay}{B}\right)$       (E) NOTA

$$A\left(2^{\frac{x}{y}}\right) = B \Rightarrow 2^{\frac{x}{y}} = \frac{B}{A} \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} = \log_2 2^{\frac{x}{y}} = \log_2\left(\frac{B}{A}\right) \Rightarrow x = y \log_2\left(\frac{B}{A}\right), \text{ which is B.}$$

15. Determine the sum of all solutions to  $3^{x \log_3(x+2)} = x + 2$ .

- (A) 2                      (B) 1                      (C) 0                      (D) 3                      (E) NOTA

$$3^{x \log_3(x+2)} = x + 2 \Rightarrow x \log_3(x+2) = \log_3 3^{x \log_3(x+2)} = \log_3(x+2) \Rightarrow (x-1) \log_3(x+2) = 0 \Rightarrow$$
$$x = 1 \text{ or } \log_3(x+2) = 0 \Rightarrow x + 2 = 1 \Rightarrow x = -1$$

And thus the solutions sum to 0, which is C.

16. Given that  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$ , solve for  $x$ :  $3^{\sin x} = \frac{1}{3}$

- (A)  $\frac{3\pi}{2}$                       (B)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$                       (C)  $-\pi$                       (D)  $\frac{-\pi}{3}$                       (E) NOTA

$$3^{\sin x} = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow \sin x = \log_3 3^{\sin x} = \log_3 \frac{1}{3} = -1, \text{ and with } 0 \leq x < 2\pi, \sin x = -1 \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{3\pi}{2}, \text{ which}$$

is A.

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17. Given that  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$ , determine the sum of all values of  $x$  for which  $\ln(\sin x) - \ln(\cos x) = 0$ .

- (A)  $\frac{\pi}{4}$             (B)  $\frac{\pi}{3}$             (C)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$             (D)  $\frac{3\pi}{2}$             (E) NOTA

$$\ln(\tan x) = \ln\left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}\right) = \ln(\sin x) - \ln(\cos x) = 0 \Rightarrow \tan x = 1, \text{ so with } 0 \leq x < 2\pi, \text{ we get}$$

$x = \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{5\pi}{4}$ , however we can rule out  $x = \frac{5\pi}{4}$ , since  $\sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{4}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{4}\right)$  and we can't

take the natural log of a negative number. Therefore, we are left with  $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$ , so we get A.

18. What is the product of the solutions for  $x$ ?  $(2 \log_4 x^{\log_4 x}) - (4 \log_4 x) + 3 = 9$

- (A) 64            (B) 32            (C) -6            (D) 16            (E) NOTA

$$2 \log_4 x^{\log_4 x^{-2}} + 3 = 2 \log_4 \frac{x^{\log_4 x}}{x^2} + 3 = 2 \log_4 x^{\log_4 x} - 2 \log_4 x^2 + 3 = (2 \log_4 x^{\log_4 x}) - (4 \log_4 x) + 3 = 9$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \log_4 x^{\log_4 x^{-2}} = 6 \Rightarrow (\log_4 x)^2 - 2 \log_4 x = (\log_4 x - 2) \log_4 x = \log_4 x^{\log_4 x^{-2}} = 3 \Rightarrow$$

$$(\log_4 x)^2 - 2 \log_4 x - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow \log_4 x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4+12}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 4}{2} = 3, -1 \Rightarrow x = 4^3, 4^{-1}$$

Multiplying these together, we get  $4^3 \cdot 4^{-1} = 4^2 = 16$ , which is D.

19. Which of the following is equal to  $9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9$ ?

- (A)  $3^{22}$             (B)  $3^{19}$             (C)  $3^{24}$             (D)  $3^{20}$             (E) NOTA

$$9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 + 9^9 = 9(9^9) = 9^{10} = (3^2)^{10} = 3^{20}, \text{ which is D.}$$

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20. Solve for  $x$ :  $4^x - 16(2^x)^2 + 64 \cdot 4^x = 98$

- (A) 2                      (B) 1                      (C)  $\frac{1}{2}$                       (D)  $\frac{3}{4}$                       (E) NOTA

$$49 \cdot 4^x = (65 - 16)4^x = 65(4^x) - 16(2^2)^x = 65 \cdot 4^x - 16(2^{2x}) = 4^x - 16(2^x)^2 + 64 \cdot 4^x = 98 \Rightarrow$$

$$4^x = \frac{98}{49} = 2 \Rightarrow \log_4 4^x = \log_4 2 \Rightarrow x = \log_4 2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

which is C.

21. Solve for  $x$ :  $\sqrt{x^2 - 5x + 40} = 6$

- (A) 1                      (B) 4 and 1                      (C)  $\frac{5 \pm \sqrt{76}}{2}$                       (D) 3 and 6                      (E) NOTA

$$\sqrt{x^2 - 5x + 40} = 6 \Rightarrow x^2 - 5x + 40 = 36 \Rightarrow x^2 - 5x + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 16}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm 3}{2} = 4, 1$$

This gives us B.

22. Solve for  $x$ :  $\log_3 x = \log_x 27$

- (A)  $\sqrt{3}$                       (B) 9                      (C) 3                      (D)  $3\sqrt{3}$                       (E) NOTA

$$\log_3 x = \log_x 27 \Rightarrow \log_3 x = 3 \log_x 3 = \frac{3}{\log_3 x} \Rightarrow (\log_3 x)^2 = 3 \Rightarrow \log_3 x = \pm \sqrt{3} \Rightarrow x = 3^{\pm \sqrt{3}}$$

This gives us E.

23. If  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are rational and  $54^a \cdot 50^b \cdot 126^c = 2160$ , evaluate  $a + b + c$ .

- (A) 3                      (B) 4                      (C) 1                      (D) 5                      (E) NOTA

Using prime factorization, we have

$$2^{a+b+c} \cdot 3^{3a+2c} \cdot 5^{2b} \cdot 7^c = 3^{3a} \cdot 2^a \cdot 5^{2b} \cdot 2^b \cdot 2^c \cdot 3^{2c} \cdot 7^c = (3^3 \cdot 2)^a \cdot (5^2 \cdot 2)^b \cdot (2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7)^c =$$

$$54^a \cdot 50^b \cdot 126^c = 2160 = 2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5$$

so  $a + b + c = 4$ , which is B.

24. In Problem 23, what is  $3a + 2c$ ?

- (A) 4                      (B) 3                      (C) 2                      (D) 1                      (E) NOTA

From the above factorization, we get  $3a + 2c = 3$ , which is B.

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25. Which of the following is equivalent to  $\log_x 25 + \log_5 x - \frac{2}{\log_5 x}$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{1}{\log_{25} x}$       (B)  $\log_{25} x - \log_5 x$       (C)  $\log_x 5$       (D)  $\frac{1}{\log_x 5}$       (E) NOTA

Using the equality  $\log_c d = \frac{\ln d}{\ln c} = \frac{1}{\frac{\ln c}{\ln d}} = \frac{1}{\log_d c}$ , we get

$$\log_x 25 + \log_5 x - \frac{2}{\log_5 x} = 2\log_x 5 + \log_5 x - \frac{2}{\log_5 x} = \frac{2}{\log_5 x} + \log_5 x - \frac{2}{\log_5 x} = \log_5 x = \frac{1}{\log_x 5}$$

This gives us D.

26. Which of the following is equivalent to  $(2^a 3^{a+2})^{a-2}$ ?

- (A)  $\left(\frac{6^a}{(2^a 3^2)}\right)^2$       (B)  $\frac{(2^a 3^a)^2}{2^2 3^2}$       (C)  $\frac{3^{a^2-2a-4} 2^{a^2}}{2^a}$       (D)  $3^{a^2-4} 2^{a^2-2a}$       (E) NOTA

$$(2^a 3^{a+2})^{a-2} = 2^{a(a-2)} 3^{(a+2)(a-2)} = 3^{a^2-4} 2^{a^2-2a}, \text{ which is D.}$$

27. Which of the following is equivalent to  $\frac{c^{3n+2} b^{2n-1}}{b^{2n+3} (c^2)^{n+1}}$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{c^{n-3}}{b^{4-n}}$       (B)  $\frac{c^n}{b^{2-n}}$       (C)  $\frac{c^n}{b^4}$       (D)  $\frac{c^{4+n}}{b^{n-3}}$       (E) NOTA

$$\frac{c^{3n+2} b^{2n-1}}{b^{2n+3} (c^2)^{n+1}} = c^{3n+2-2n-2} b^{2n-1-2n-3} = c^n b^{-4} = \frac{c^n}{b^4}, \text{ which is C.}$$

28. Evaluate:  $7^{\ln(25)}$

- (A)  $5^{\ln 49}$       (B)  $7^{\ln 2 \ln 5}$       (C)  $5^{\ln 7}$       (D)  $\ln(e^{\ln 7 \ln(25)})$       (E) NOTA

$$7^{\ln(25)} = e^{\ln 7^{\ln 25}} = e^{\ln 25 \ln 7} = e^{2 \ln 5 \ln 7} = e^{\ln 5 \ln 49} = e^{\ln 5^{\ln 49}} = 5^{\ln 49}, \text{ which is A.}$$



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29. If  $2^x = 3$ , evaluate  $\frac{2 \cdot 4^x - 3 \cdot 2^x}{4} + \frac{8^x}{4}$ .

- (A)  $\frac{13}{2}$       (B)  $\frac{35}{4}$       (C) 9      (D) 7      (E) NOTA

Since  $2^x = 3$ ,  $\frac{2 \cdot 4^x - 3 \cdot 2^x}{4} + \frac{8^x}{4} = \frac{2 \cdot (2^x)^2 - 3 \cdot 2^x}{4} + \frac{(2^x)^3}{4} = \frac{2 \cdot 3^2 - 3 \cdot 3 + 3^3}{4} = \frac{36}{4} = 9$ ,  
which is C.

30. Solve for  $x$ :  $a^{\log_{10} a^{x^2}} = m^{\log_{10} m}$

- (A)  $\sqrt{\log_m a}$       (B)  $am$       (C)  $\log_m a$       (D)  $\log_a m$       (E) NOTA

$$a^{\log_{10} a^{x^2}} = m^{\log_{10} m} \Rightarrow x^2 (\log_{10} x)^2 = x^2 \log_{10} a \log_{10} a = \log_{10} a^{x^2} \log_{10} a = \log_{10} a^{\log_{10} a^{x^2}} =$$

$$\log_{10} m^{\log_{10} m} = \log_{10} m \log_{10} m = (\log_{10} m)^2 \Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{(\log_{10} m)^2}{(\log_{10} a)^2} = \left( \frac{\log_{10} m}{\log_{10} a} \right)^2 = (\log_a m)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm \log_a m$$

Which gives us E. It should also be noted that if  $a=1$ , then we cannot make the division. However, if  $a=1$ , then if  $m=1$  then all values of  $x$  will be solutions. However if  $m \neq 1$ , then there are no solutions in this case.

31. Solve for  $x$ :  $\log_7(2x + 3) + \log_7(3x - 1) = 1$

- (A)  $\frac{2}{3}$  and  $-1$       (B)  $\frac{5}{6}$  and  $-2$       (C) 2 and  $-\frac{2}{3}$       (D) 3 and 2      (E) NOTA

$$\log_7(6x^2 + 7x - 3) = \log_7((2x + 3)(3x - 1)) = \log_7(2x + 3) + \log_7(3x - 1) = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$6x^2 + 7x - 3 = 7 \Rightarrow 6x^2 + 7x - 10 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-7 \pm \sqrt{49 + 240}}{12} = \frac{-7 \pm 17}{12} = \frac{5}{6}, -2$$

However, if we allow  $-2$ , then we are taking the log of a negative number, and thus we must only consider  $\frac{5}{6}$ , giving us E.

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32. Simplify:  $\frac{3^x 3^{1-x} 9^x}{27^{\frac{2}{3}x}}$

- (A) 9                      (B) 3                      (C)  $3^{x-1}$                       (D)  $9^{1-x}$                       (E) NOTA

$$\frac{3^x 3^{1-x} 9^x}{27^{\frac{2}{3}x}} = \frac{3^{x+1-x} 3^{2x}}{3^{\frac{2}{3}x}} = \frac{3^{1+2x}}{3^{\frac{2}{3}x}} = 3^{1+2x-\frac{2}{3}x} = 3^1 = 3, \text{ which is B.}$$

33. Consider the equation  $\log_{10}(3x+2) + \frac{1}{\log_{2x-1} 10} = 1$ , which is satisfied for two rational values

of  $x$ . These two rational values can be expressed as  $\frac{a}{b}$  and  $\frac{c}{d}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime, as are  $c$  and  $d$ . If either  $\frac{a}{b}$  or  $\frac{c}{d}$  is negative, treat  $a$  or  $c$  as the negative quantity, not  $b$  or  $d$ . Evaluate  $a + b + c + d$ .

- (A) 6                      (B) 7                      (C) 8                      (D) 9                      (E) NOTA

$$\log_{10}((3x+2)(2x-1)) = \log_{10}(3x+2) + \log_{10}(2x-1) = \log_{10}(3x+2) + \frac{1}{\log_{2x-1} 10} = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$6x^2 + x - 2 = (3x+2)(2x-1) = 10 \Rightarrow 6x^2 + x - 12 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+288}}{12} = \frac{-1 \pm 17}{12} =$$

$$\frac{4}{3}, -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$a + b + c + d = 4 + 3 - 3 + 2 = 6, \text{ which is A.}$$

34. If  $\log_2(4x+8) - \log_2(x) \leq 3$ , what values of  $x$  are possible.

- (A)  $x \geq 2$                       (B)  $x \leq 3$                       (C)  $x \leq 2$                       (D)  $x \geq 3$                       (E) NOTA

$$\log_2 \frac{4x+8}{x} = \log_2(4x+8) - \log_2(x) \leq 3 \Rightarrow 4 + \frac{8}{x} = \frac{4x+8}{x} \leq 2^3 = 8 \Rightarrow \frac{8}{x} \leq 4 \Rightarrow 8 \leq 4x \Rightarrow$$

$$x \geq 2$$

This gives us A. We knew that we could multiply by  $x$ , since we are taking the logarithm of  $x$

and we can only take logarithms of positive numbers.

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35. Which of the following is equivalent to  $\log_4 x^3$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{2\log_2 x}{3}$       (B)  $6\log_2 x$       (C)  $\frac{3\log_2 x}{2}$       (D)  $3\log_{\sqrt{4}} x$       (E) NOTA

$$\log_4 x^3 = \frac{\log_2 x^3}{\log_2 4} = \frac{3\log_2 x}{2}, \text{ which is C.}$$

36. What is the sum of all the positive integral factors of 630?

- (A) 900      (B) 1530      (C) 1242      (D) 1872      (E) NOTA

$630 = 2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ , so the sum that we want is

$$2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + 2 \cdot 5 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + 2 \cdot 7 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + 2 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + 5 \cdot 7 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + 5 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + 7 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i + \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i =$$

$$144 \sum_{i=0}^2 3^i = 144(13) = 1872$$

This gives us D.

37. If  $\log_{10} 5 = a$ ,  $\log_{10} 7 = b$ , and  $\log_{10} 2 = c$ , what is  $\log_2 10 + \log_{35} 2$  in terms of  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ .

- (A)  $\frac{a+b+c^2}{ac+bc}$       (B)  $\frac{ac+b}{ab^2}$       (C)  $\frac{ac+b}{ab^2c}$       (D)  $\frac{ab-c}{abc}$       (E) NOTA

$$\log_2 10 + \log_{35} 2 = \frac{1}{\log_{10} 2} + \frac{\log_{10} 2}{\log_{10} 35} = \frac{1}{c} + \frac{c}{\log_{10} 5 + \log_{10} 7} = \frac{1}{c} + \frac{c}{a+b} = \frac{a+b+c^2}{ac+bc}, \text{ which is}$$

A.

38. Which is equivalent to:  $\frac{r^{-4} - s^{-4}}{r^{-2} - s^{-2}}$ ?

- (A)  $r^2 - s^2$       (B)  $s^{-2} + r^{-2}$       (C)  $\frac{r^3 - s^3}{r - s}$       (D)  $\frac{r^3 - s^3}{r + s}$       (E) NOTA

$$\frac{r^{-4} - s^{-4}}{r^{-2} - s^{-2}} = \frac{(r^{-2} + s^{-2})(r^{-2} - s^{-2})}{r^{-2} - s^{-2}} = r^{-2} + s^{-2}, \text{ which gives us B.}$$

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39. Evaluate:  $\frac{2i-3}{3i+2}$

- (A)  $-i$       (B)  $\frac{i}{13}$       (C)  $i$       (D)  $\frac{-i}{13}$       (E) NOTA

$$\frac{2i-3}{3i+2} \cdot \frac{3i-2}{3i-2} = \frac{6i^2 - 13i + 6}{9i^2 - 4} = \frac{-6 - 13i + 6}{-13} = i, \text{ which is C.}$$

40. Which of the following is equal to:  $\log_a\left(\frac{b}{c}\right) + \frac{1}{\log_b(a^3)} + \frac{1}{\log_c(a)}$

- (A)  $\log_c(\sqrt[3]{a^2b})$     (B)  $\log_a(\sqrt[3]{b^4})$     (C)  $\log_b(\sqrt[3]{ac})$     (D)  $\log_c\left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{b}\right)$     (E) NOTA

$$\log_a\left(\frac{b}{c}\right) + \frac{1}{\log_b(a^3)} + \frac{1}{\log_c(a)} = \log_a b - \log_a c + \frac{1}{3\log_b a} + \log_a c = \log_a b + \frac{\log_a b}{3} = \frac{4\log_a b}{3} =$$

$$\log_a b^{\frac{4}{3}} = \log_a \sqrt[3]{b^4}$$

This gives us B.