

5 September 2014 **Inverse functions**

(1) Find the exact value of each expression.

(a) $\log_5\left(\frac{1}{125}\right)$

(b) $\log_{10}(\sqrt{10})$

(c) $\log_3 100 - \log_3 18 - \log_3 50$

(d) $\log_2(\log_2 2^{2^8})$

(2) In the theory of relativity, the mass of a particle with speed v is

$$m(v) = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}},$$

where m_0 is the rest mass of the particle (a constant) and c is the speed of light in a vacuum (also a constant). Find the inverse function $v(m)$ (that is, solve for v in terms of m) and explain its meaning.

(3) Express the following quantity as a single logarithm.

$$\frac{1}{3} \log_5(x+2)^3 + \frac{1}{2} [\log_5 x - \log_5(x^2 + 3x + 2)^2]$$

(4) A bacterial culture is known to triple every two hours. Suppose there are initially 80 bacteria.

(a) How many bacteria are there after 6 hours?

(b) How many bacteria are there after t hours?

(c) When will there be 80 000 bacteria? Give an exact answer in terms of logs (no approximations).

(5) In this exercise we will show that $\cos(\sin^{-1} x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$.

(a) Think of $\sin^{-1} x$ as “the angle θ whose sine is x ”. Draw a triangle representing this relationship (that is, a triangle that shows that $\sin \theta = \frac{x}{1}$). Make sure to fill in the length of the missing side.

(b) What is $\cos \theta$?

(c) Show that $\cos(\sin^{-1} x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$.

(6) Solve each equation for x .

(a) $\log_3 x + \log_3(x - 1) = 1$

(b) $9^x - 3^{x+1} + 2 = 0$ Hint: let $z = 3^x$.