

# Exponential/Log and Interest Rate Formulae

**Exponential**  $a \neq 0$

$$a^0 = 1$$

$$a^1 = a$$

$$1^r = 1, r \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$a^{(x+y)} = (a^x)(a^y)$$

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

$$(a^x)^r = a^{xr}$$

**Logarithmic**  $a > 0$

$$\log_a 1 = 0$$

$$\log_a a = 1$$

$$\log_a (a^x) = x$$

$$\log_a xy = \log_a x + \log_a y$$

$$\log_a \frac{x}{y} = \log_a x - \log_a y$$

$$\log_a (a^p) = p \log_a (a), p \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$a^{\log_a x} = x$$

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$$a^x = b^{x \cdot \log_b a}$$

$$\log_a x = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b a}$$


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- $r$  = annual interest rate, without considering compounding
- $n$  = number of periods per year that interest is paid (compounding factor, e.g. compounding “semi-annually” means  $n = 2$ )
- $t$  = number of years of the investment
- $P$  = present value
- $F$  = future value
- $r^*$  = effective interest rate (i.e. the annual interest rate if considering the interest rate is calculated annually)

$$F = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt} = P(1 + r^*)$$

$$P = F \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{-nt}$$

If the interest is compounding continuously, i.e.  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$F = P e^{rt}; \quad P = F e^{-rt}$$