

Sections 4.1 and 4.2 Exponential functions.

Let  $a > 0$  be a positive real number.

A standard exponential function with base  $a$

is of the form  $f(x) = ka^x$  for some constant  $k$ .

example  $f(x) = 6\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x$  has base  $= \frac{1}{2}$

$$f(0) = 6\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^0 = 6 \cdot 1 = 6$$

$$f(1) = 6\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 = 6 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 3$$

$$f(2) = 6\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = 6 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{2}$$

etc.

Common bases used with exponential functions include.

$a = \frac{1}{2}$  for modeling "half-life" problems.

$$a = 2$$

$a = 10$  called the common base

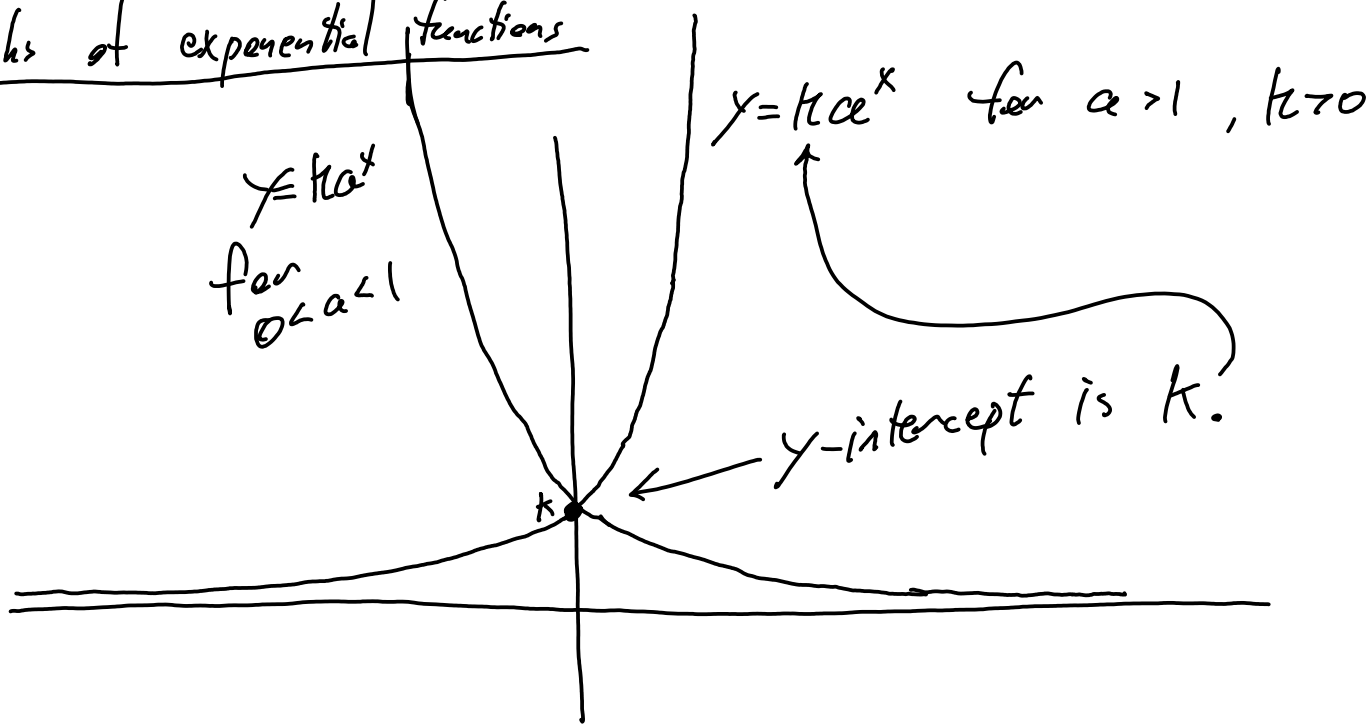
$a = \left(1 + \frac{r}{12}\right)$  where  $r$  is an interest rate like  $r = .03$   
for 3%

$a = e \approx 2.718\dots$  called the natural base  
or Euler's Constant.

### Graphs of exponential functions

$y = ka^x$   
for  $0 < a < 1$

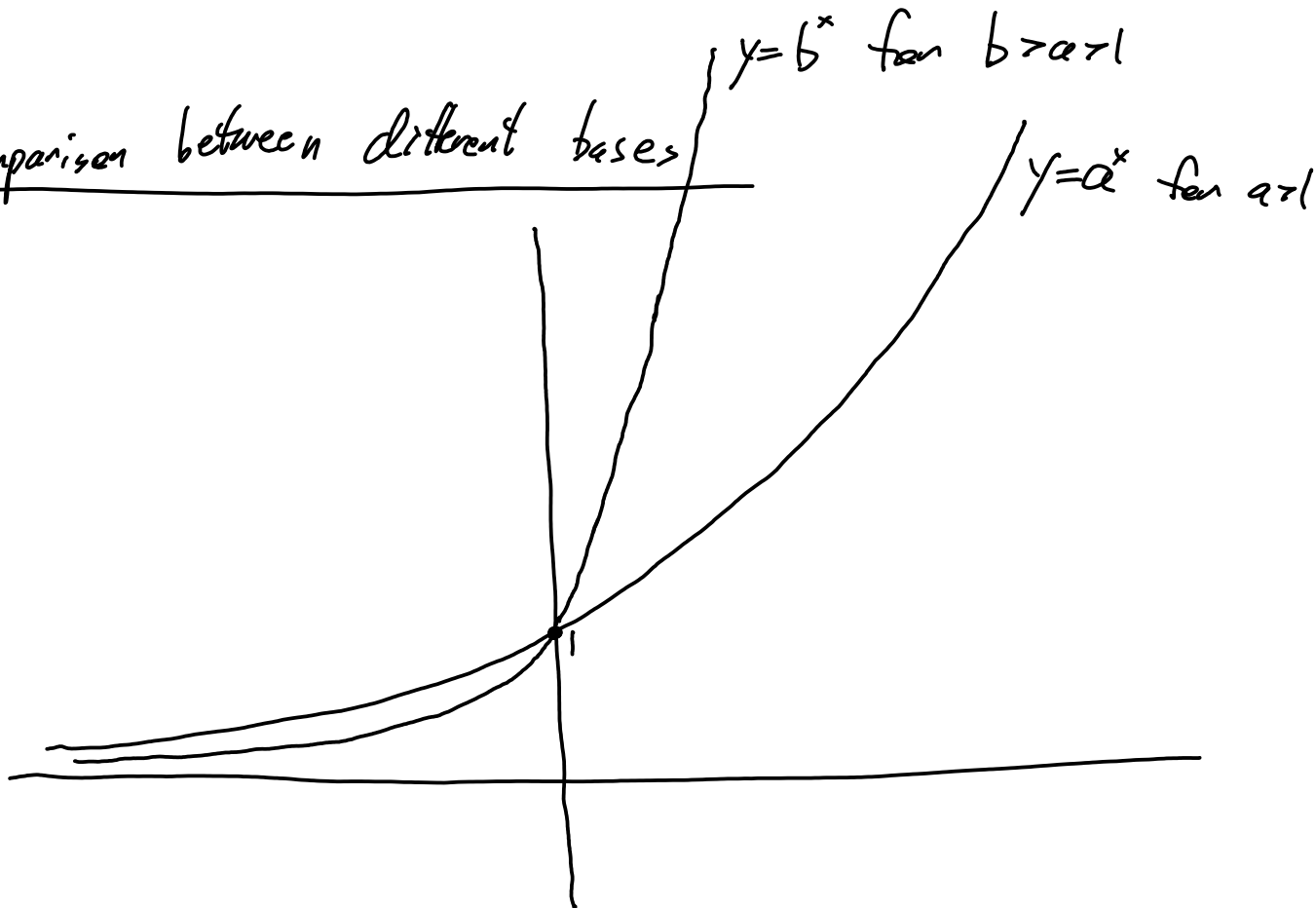
$y = kae^x$  for  $a > 1, k > 0$



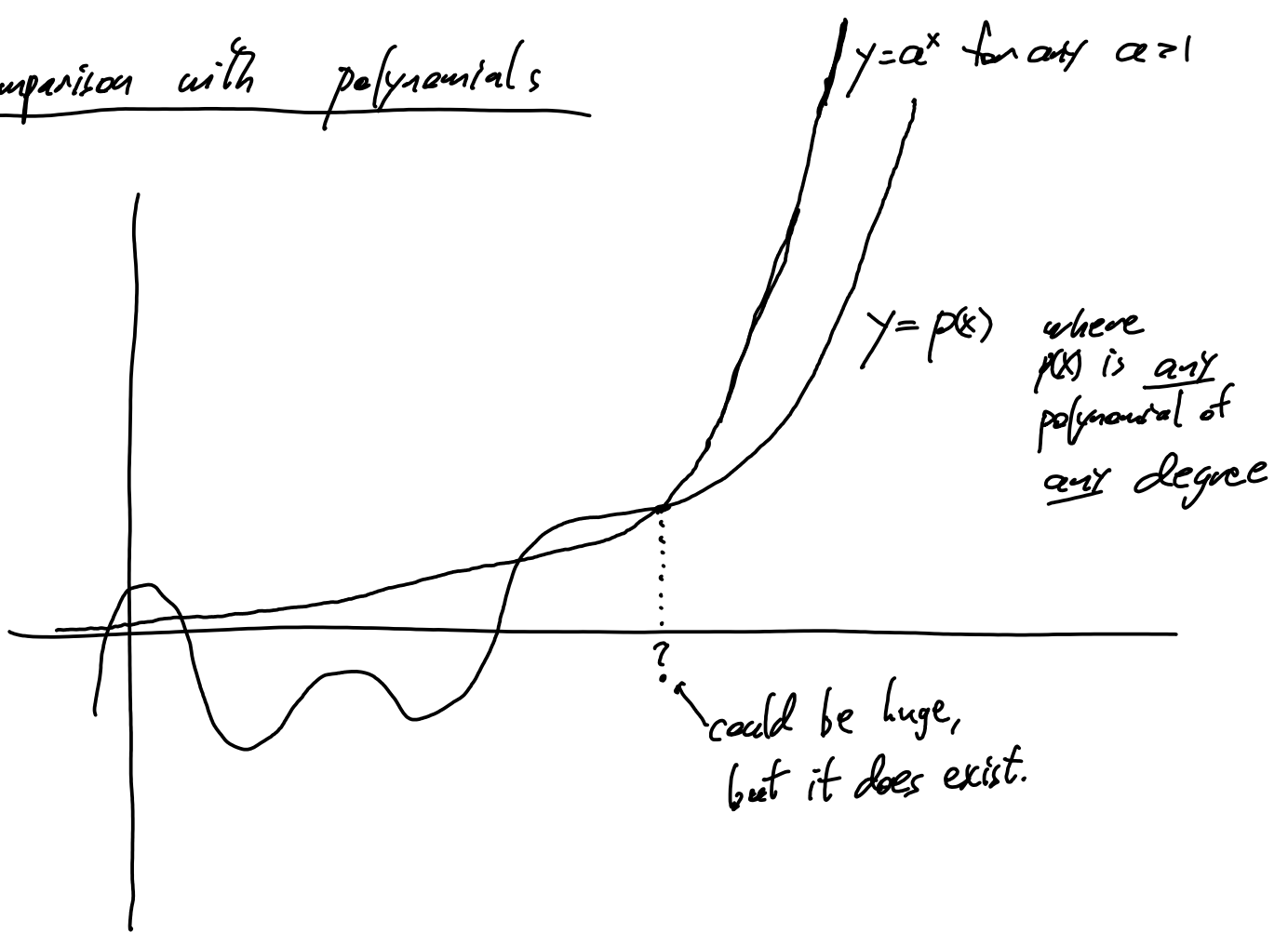
### Comparison between different bases

$y = b^x$  for  $b > a > 1$

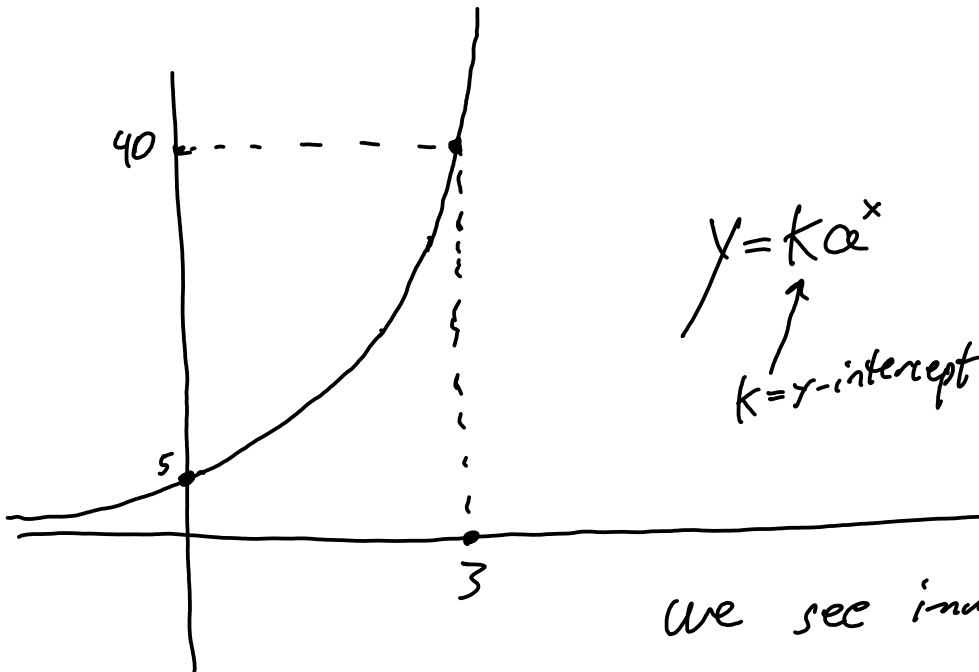
$y = a^x$  for  $a > 1$



# Comparison with polynomials



example find the exponential function  $y = ka^x$



we see immediately that  $k = 5$ ,  
The y-intercept.

$$y = 5a^x$$

We also see that  $(x, y) = (3, 40)$  is a point on the graph.

So  $\frac{40}{5} = \frac{5a^3}{5}$

$$8 = a^3$$

$$\sqrt[3]{8} = a$$

$$2 = a$$

So  $y = 5 \cdot 2^x$

### example of usage

Carbon-14 is a radioactive isotope of the more common carbon-12. The "half-life" of Carbon-14 is 5730 years.

This means that after 5730 years half of a Carbon-14 sample remains of some original sample.

So an exponential function which models the remaining amount  $A(t)$  of some initial sample  $I$  of Carbon-14 after  $t$  years is

$$A(t) = I \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^{\frac{t}{5730}}$$

So for example. Take  $A(t) = 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{t}{5730}}$  mcg.

$$A(0) = 5 \text{ mcg}$$

$$A(5730) = 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{5730}{5730}} = 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 = 2.5 \text{ mcg}$$

$$A(10,000) = 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{10000}{5730}} = 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{1.745200\dots} = 1.9914 \text{ mcg}$$

example of usage (compounding interest)

Suppose that a savings account at a bank pays an interest rate of 2% once per year. This means that an initial investment of  $I$  dollars will be worth

$$I(1.02) \text{ after 1-year.}$$

$$I(1.02)^2 \text{ after 2-years}$$

$$I(1.02)^3 \text{ after 3-years}$$

⋮

$$V(t) = I(1.02)^t \text{ after } t \text{ years.}$$

e.g. what is the value of  $I=5,000$  \$ after 3 years

$$V(3) = 5,000(1.02)^3 = 5306.04$$

example (compounded interest with multiple compounding periods.

If a bank pays an interest rate of  $r$  compounded  $n$  times a year ( $n=4, 12$  is standard) then the value of an initial investment  $I$  after  $t$  years is

$$A(t) = I \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$$

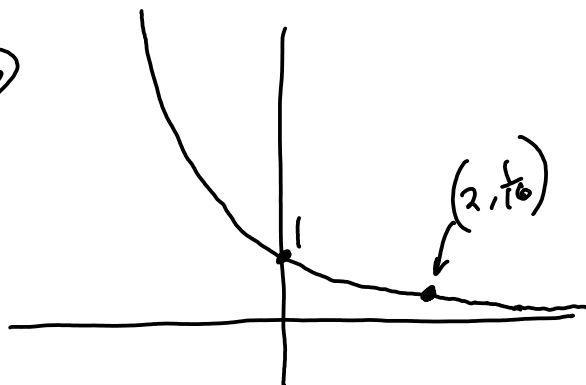
e.g. What is the value of an initial investment of \$5000 after 3 years with 2% interest compounded monthly.

$$A(t) = 5000 \left(1 + \frac{0.02}{12}\right)^{12t}$$

$$A(3) = 5000 \left(1 + \frac{0.02}{12}\right)^{36} = \boxed{\$5,308.91}$$

### Section 4.1

(27)



$$y = ka^x \quad \text{find } k \text{ and } a.$$

$$y\text{-intercept } k=1$$

$$y = a^x$$

Then  $(x, y) = (2, \frac{1}{16})$  is on graph.

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{16}} = \sqrt{a^2}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{1}}{\sqrt{16}} = a$$

$$\frac{1}{4} = a$$

$$y = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^x$$

33 Sketch the graph  $y = 5^{-x} + 1$ .

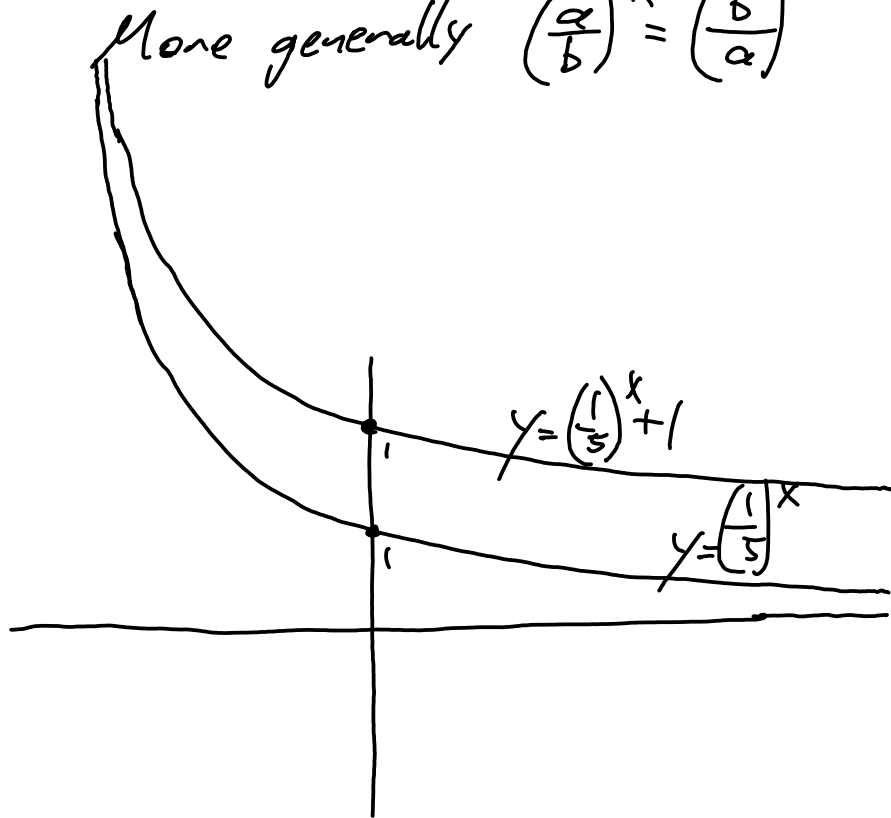
Remember  $5^{-x} = \frac{1}{5^x}$

$$\text{So } y = \frac{1}{5^x} + 1$$

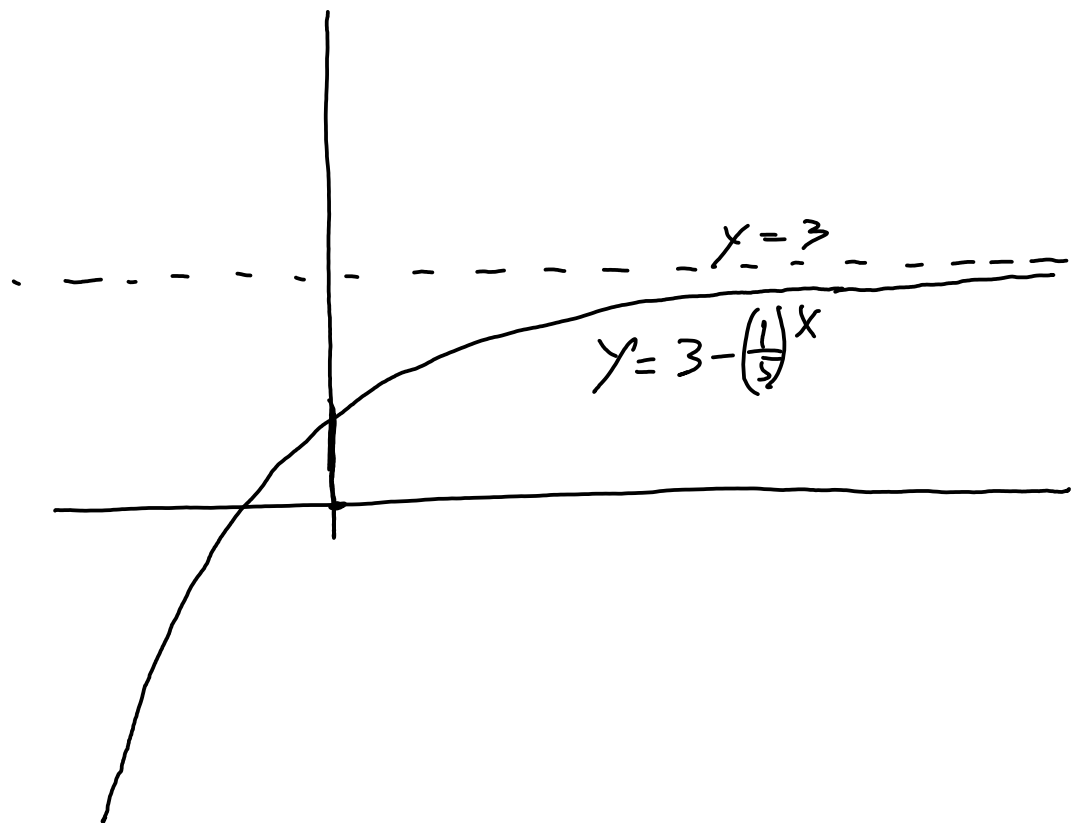
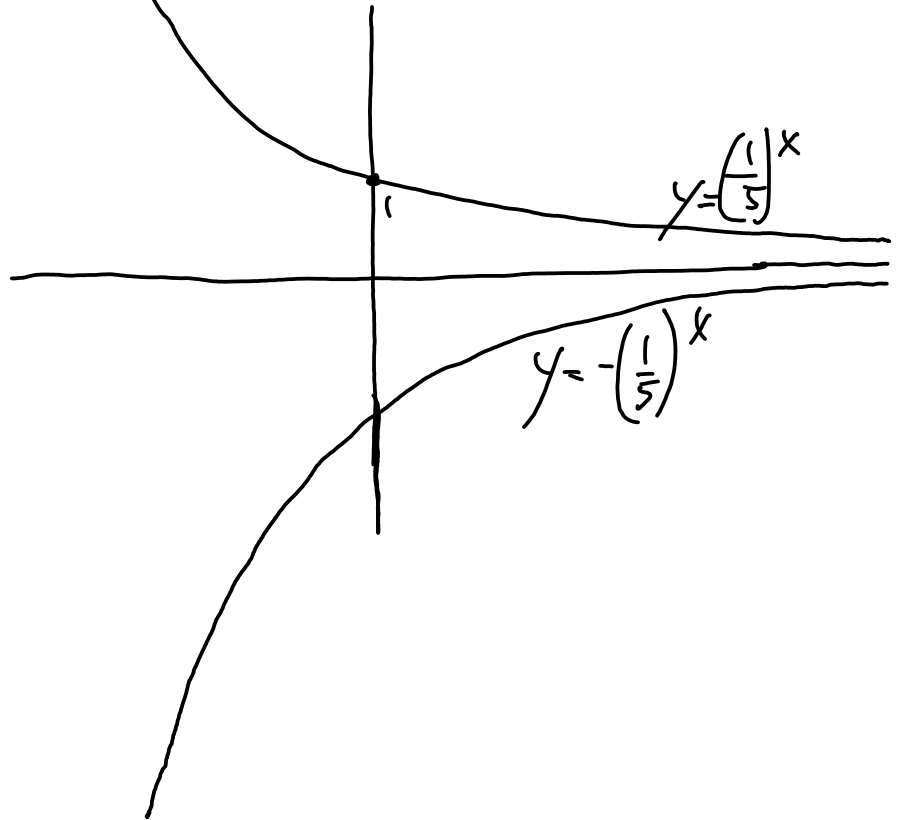
$$y = \frac{1^x}{5^x} + 1$$

$$y = \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^x + 1$$

More generally  $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-x} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^x$



④ Sketch the graph  $y = 3 - \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^x = -\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^x + 3$





(54)  $I = 320$  mice estimates are that the mouse population doubles every year.

(a) Find an exponential function which models mouse population  $P(t) =$  number of mice after  $t$  years.

$$P(t) = I a^t$$

$$P(t) = 320 \cdot 2^t$$

aside If the mouse population doubles every 2.5 years, then the function is

$$P(t) = 320 \cdot 2^{\frac{t}{2.5}}$$

(59) \$500 is invested at 3.75%/year compounded quarterly.

what is the value of such an investment after 1 year, 2 years, 10 years?

$$V(t) = I \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$$

where  $t =$  years

$n =$  compounding periods

$$r = \frac{\text{percentage}}{100}$$

$$V(t) = 500 \left( 1 + \frac{0.0375}{4} \right)^{4t}$$

$$V(1) = 500 \left( 1 + \frac{0.0375}{4} \right)^1 = \$519.02$$

$$V(2) = 500 \left( 1 + \frac{0.0375}{4} \right)^8 = \$538.75$$

$$V(10) = 500 \left( 1 + \frac{0.0375}{4} \right)^{40} = \$726.23$$

4.2

⑦ Graph

$$y = 2 + e^x$$

