

# 7.1 – Exponential Functions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Write your questions and thoughts here!

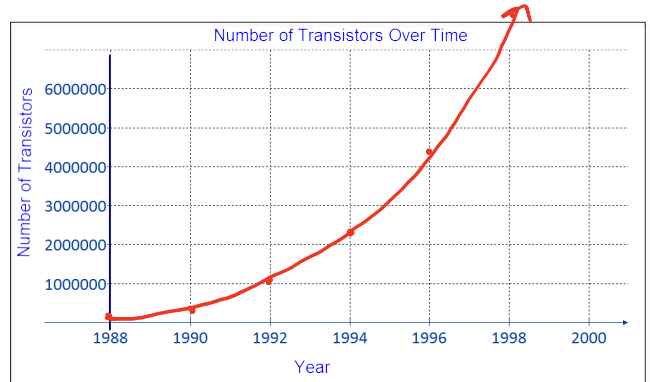
$$y = 2^x$$

**Moore's Law** states that processor speeds, or overall processing power for computers will double about every 18 months. Likewise, the cost to produce a comparable computer will be cut in half.

**What does this mean?** To simplify the mathematics, let's assume it takes 2 yrs to double/half instead of 18 months.

**Example 1:** In 1988, the number of transistors in the Intel 386 SX microprocessor was 275,000. What was the approximate transistor count of the Pentium II Intel microprocessor in 1998?

Year	Transistors
1988	275,000
1990	550,000
1992	1,110,000
1994	2,200,000
1996	4,400,000
1998	8,800,000

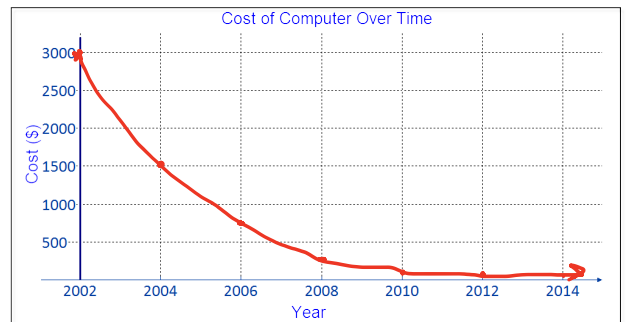


This is called exponential GROWTH.

(The actual number of transistors in a Pentium II chip in 1998 was 7,500,000!!)

**Example 2:** A personal computer that cost \$3,000 in 2002 would cost about how much now?

Year	Cost (\$)
2002	3000
2004	1500
2006	750
2008	375
2010	187.50
2012	93.75
2014	46.88



This is called Exponential DECAY.

An **Exponential Function** is of the form:

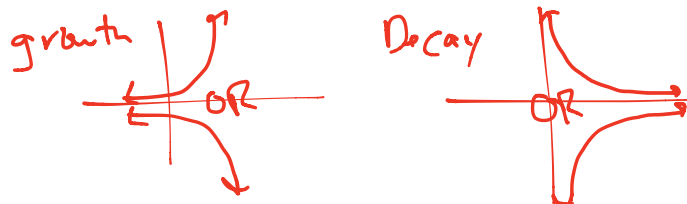
$$y = a(b)^x$$

Initial Value

Growth/decay factor  
 $b > 1$      $0 < b < 1$

Condition 1:  $a \neq 0$

Condition 2: The base ( $b$ ) is a positive number other than 1.

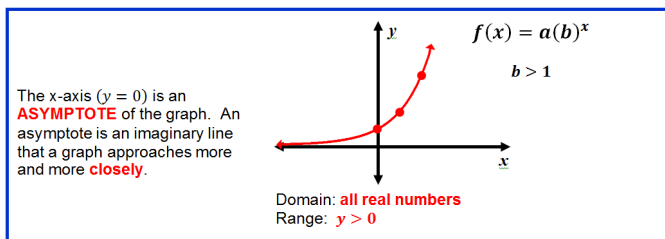


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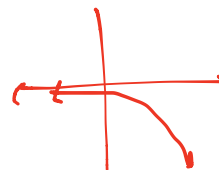
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### EXPONENTIAL GROWTH FUNCTIONS:

If  $b > 1$ , then the graph will "grow" away from the asymptote as you move left to right.



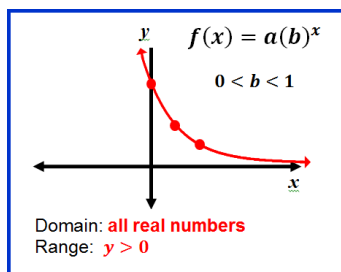
Also Possible:



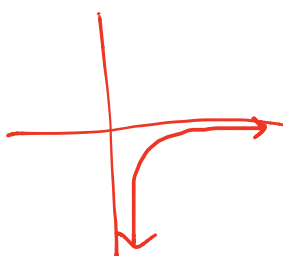
**You decide!** Growth, decay or neither?

### EXPONENTIAL DECAY FUNCTIONS:

If  $0 < b < 1$ , then the graph will "decay" toward the asymptote as you move left to right.



Also Possible:



$y = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^x$  Growth

$y = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}^x$  Decay

Decay

growth

neither

Decay  $y = -2^{-x} = -(\frac{1}{2})^x$

$y = 0.4 \left(\frac{7}{10}\right)^{-x}$  Growth

Growth

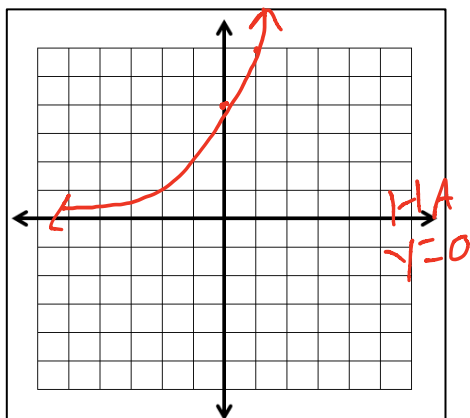
$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot x^2$  neither

### Graphing Shortcut:

For exponential functions that are in the form  $y = a(b)^x$ , the graph will go through:  $(0, a)$ ,  $(1, ab)$ ,  $(2, ab^2)$  and have an asymptote on the x-axis

Cool website → <https://www.desmos.com/calculator>

3. Graph  $y = 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-x} = 3 \cdot (2)^x$



x	y
-2	3/4
-1	3/2
0	3
1	6
2	12

Growth

Domain:  $\mathbb{R}$  Range:  $(0, \infty)$

# 7.1 – Exponential Functions

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Remember these important formulas:

## COMPOUND INTEREST

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

t = time (years) P = principal (initial investment)  
 r = annual interest rate  
 n = the number of times the interest is compounded (paid) per year.

## GROWTH AND DECAY MODELS

$$y = a(1 \pm r)^t$$

t = time a = initial value  
 r = rate of change  
 + = increase - = decrease

## CONTINUOUSLY COMPOUNDED INTEREST

$$A = Pe^{rt}$$

t = time (years) P = principal (initial investment)  
 r = annual interest rate  
 A = amount in the account



4. You deposit \$3,000 in an account that pays 3.28% annual interest. How much would you have if the interest was compounded daily for five years? Continuously?

Handwritten solution for problem 4:

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

$$= 3000 \left( 1 + \frac{0.0328}{365} \right)^{(365)(5)}$$

$$A = \$3534.62$$
  

$$A = Pe^{rt}$$

$$= 3000e^{0.0328(5)}$$

$$A = \$3534.64$$



5. The relative growth rate for bacteria from Sully's tongue is 80% per hour after eating a Turkish Pizza. Sully swabs his mouth and starts a culture that, 4 hours later, shows approximately 50,000 bacteria. How many bacteria did Sully start the culture with?

Handwritten solution for problem 5:

$$y = a(1 \pm r)^t$$

$$50,000 = a(1 + .80)^4$$

$$50,000 = a(1.80)^4$$

$$\frac{50,000}{1.80^4} = a$$

$$a \approx 4763 \text{ bacteria}$$

Remember your rules when solving equations with exponents!!

6.  $\frac{3^{x^2}}{27} = 9^x$

$$\frac{3^{x^2}}{3^3} = (3^2)^x$$

$$3^{x^2-3} = 3^{2x}$$

$$x^2 - 3 = 2x$$

$$x^2 - 2x - 3 = 0$$

$$(x-3)(x+1) = 0$$

$$x-3=0 \quad x+1=0$$

$$x=3 \quad x=-1$$

7.  $64^{-3w} \cdot \frac{1}{64} = 4^2$

$$(4^3)^{-3w} \cdot 4^{-3} = 4^2$$

$$4^{-9w} \cdot 4^{-3} = 4^2$$

$$4^{-9w-3} = 4^2$$

$$-9w-3 = 2$$

$$-9w = 5$$

$$w = -\frac{5}{9}$$

8. You try: Solve for r.

$$16^{2r+3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{16}\right)^{2r} = 4$$

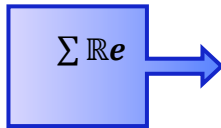
$$(4^2)^{2r+3} (4^{-2})^{2r} = 4^1$$

$$4^{4r+6} \cdot 4^{-4r} = 4^1$$

$$4^6 = 4^1$$

$$6 \neq 1$$

No solution




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