

1. Taking the natural logarithm of both sides yields  $(2x+2)\ln 3 = (6x+3)\ln 5$   
from which we re-arrange and discover that  $x = \frac{3\ln 5 - 2\ln 3}{2\ln 3 - 6\ln 5}$ . B
2. The resulting matrix from the product will not have an inverse as long as it's determinant is zero. We first find the product

$$AL = \begin{bmatrix} \log x & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2\log x & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2(\log x)^2 & 1 & \log x + 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

From here it follows that

$$ALI = \begin{bmatrix} 2(\log x)^2 & 1 & \log x + 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2(\log x)^2 + \log x + 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying by S, the identity matrix, does not change anything. So that

$$ALISS = \begin{bmatrix} 2(\log x)^2 + \log x + 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Finally, we get}$$

$$ALISSA = \begin{bmatrix} 2(\log x)^2 + \log x + 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \log x & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 2(\log x)^3 + (\log x)^2 + 2\log x & 2(\log x)^2 + \log x + 4 \\ 4\log x & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Taking the determinant gives  $8(\log x)^3 + 4(\log x)^2 = 0$  from which we see that solutions are  $x = 1, e^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . Their product gives the answer, A.

3. In order to determine  $\sinh^{-1} x$  we must switch the places of x and y and solve.

We get  $x = \frac{e^y - e^{-y}}{2} \rightarrow 2xe^y = e^{2y} - 1 \rightarrow e^{2y} - 2xe^y - 1 = 0$ . This is a quadratic in

$e^y$  and can be solved with the quadratic formula. We get

$$e^y = \frac{2x \pm \sqrt{(-2x)^2 + 4}}{2} = x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1} \text{ since any exponential must be positive.}$$

Thus  $y = \sinh^{-1} x = \ln(x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}) \rightarrow \sinh^{-1} 5 = \ln(5 + \sqrt{26})$ . D

4. This is just testing general logarithmic rules.

$$3\log_4 x - 4\log_2 y + \log_8 z = \frac{\log x^3}{\log 4} - \frac{\log y^4}{\log 2} + \frac{\log z}{\log 8} = \frac{\log x^3}{2\log 2} - \frac{\log y^4}{\log 2} + \frac{\log z}{3\log 2} =$$

$$\frac{3\log x^3 - 6\log y^4 + 2\log z}{6\log 2} = \frac{\log x^9 - \log y^{24} + \log z^2}{\log 2^6} = \frac{\log\left(\frac{x^9 z^2}{y^{24}}\right)}{\log 64} = \log_{64}\left(\frac{x^9 z^2}{y^{24}}\right)$$

.A

5. Adding  $2xy$  to both sides of the first equation yields  $(x+y)^2 = 16xy$  which is

equivalent to  $\left(\frac{1}{4}(x+y)\right)^2 = xy$ . Taking the log of both sides gives

$$2\log\left(\frac{1}{4}(x+y)\right) = \log x + \log y \Rightarrow \log\left(\frac{1}{4}(x+y)\right) = \frac{1}{2}(\log x + \log y). \text{ Thus } k = \frac{1}{4}.$$

B

6.  $\ln(\sin(\alpha + \pi)) - \ln(\cos(\alpha + \pi)) = 0 \Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{\sin(\alpha + \pi)}{\cos(\alpha + \pi)}\right) = 0 \Rightarrow \ln(\tan(\alpha + \pi)) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \tan(\alpha + \pi) = 1 \Rightarrow \alpha + \pi = \arctan(1) = \frac{\pi}{4} \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{\pi}{4} - \pi = \frac{-3\pi}{4} = \frac{5\pi}{4}$$

C

7. We will have horizontal asymptotes as  $x$  approaches plus and minus infinity. As  $x$  tends towards negative infinity we get  $y = 0$  and as  $x$  tends towards positive infinity we get  $y = 2$ . Hence the sum is 2, B.

8.  $2013^{1000} = 10^n \Rightarrow n = 1000 \log 2013 \approx 3303.84$ . Round down and add 1 to determine number of digits. 3304 B

9. Any half-life problem can be reduced to the following equation  $A = P\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^t$

where  $t$  is time and  $P$  is the principle or starting amount. The number of subsets of a set with cardinality  $n$  is  $2^n$ , hence there are  $2^{10} = 1024$  subsets of  $\{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$ . Using this information we can write

$$2^{-2^8} = P\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2^{10}} \Rightarrow P = 2^{2^{10}-2^8} = 2^{768}. \text{ C}$$

10. To evaluate infinite nested exponents we use a simple trick. Let

$$y = \sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}^{\dots}}}} = \sqrt{2}^y = 2^{\frac{y}{2}}. \text{ Squaring both sides gives } y^2 = 2^y \text{ from which it is clear that } y=2. \text{ A}$$

11.  $\prod_{n=1}^{2013} (x-n) = 2 \Rightarrow (x-1)(x-2)\dots(x-2013) = 2$ . The left hand side is a product of 2013 factors, which gives a 2013 degree polynomial. Taking the constant to the other side does not change this. By the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra this polynomial has 2013 roots (solutions). D
12.  $\tan\left(\arccos\left(-\frac{3}{5}\right)\right) = -\frac{4}{3}$  by using a simple right triangle relation. Thus we have that  $e^{-\frac{4}{3}} = x^e \Rightarrow \ln e^{-\frac{4}{3}} = e \ln x \Rightarrow -\frac{4}{3e} = \ln x \Rightarrow x = e^{-\frac{4}{3e}}$
13. We need to solve for both  $\sin x$  and  $\cos x$ . This can be done using the given formula such that  $\cos x = \frac{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}}{2}$  and  $\sin x = \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i}$  from which we get
- $$\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \frac{\frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i}}{\frac{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}}{2}} = \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{i(e^{ix} + e^{-ix})} = \frac{-i(e^{ix} - e^{-ix})}{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}} .A$$
14.  $\left(\frac{x^{-1} + y^{-1} + z^{-1}}{xz + yz + yx}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\frac{xz + yz + yx}{xyz}}{x + y + z}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{(xyz)^2} .B$
15. Long division yields  $\frac{3e^{3x} - e^{2x} - e^x - 4}{e^x + 1} = 3e^{2x} - 4e^x - 4 = (e^x - 2)(3e^x + 2)$  from which it follows that  $x = \ln 2$  . B
16. The first equation yields  $x^2 + y^2 = \frac{5}{2}xy$  after rearrangement. Similarly, the second equation can be reworked to give  $x^2 - y^2 = 3$ . Now,
- $$x^2 + y^2 = \frac{5}{2}xy \Rightarrow x^2 - 2xy + y^2 = \frac{1}{2}xy \Rightarrow (x-y)^2 = \frac{1}{2}xy$$
- Dividing this by the square of the second yields,  $\frac{1}{(x+y)^2} = \frac{xy}{18} \Rightarrow (x+y)^2 = \frac{18}{xy}$ . We get the system
- $$x^2 + 2xy + y^2 = \frac{18}{xy} \text{ and } x^2 - 2xy + y^2 = \frac{xy}{2}, \text{ and subtracting yields}$$
- $$4xy = \frac{18}{xy} - \frac{xy}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{9}{2}(xy)^2 = 18 \Rightarrow (xy)^2 = 4 \Rightarrow xy = \pm 2$$
- However, since  $(x-y)^2 = \frac{1}{2}xy$  it follows that the product must be positive, hence  $xy = 2$ .
- Substituting back into the system yields a new system, namely  $x^2 + y^2 = 5$

and  $x^2 - y^2 = 3$ . Solving this system yields two possible solutions, (2,1) and (-2,-1). Upon inspection only (2,1) is valid. Thus  $x = 2$ . B

17. Using the fact that  $e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}} = \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = i$  we have that  $\ln i = \ln e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}} = \frac{i\pi}{2}$ . B

18. To determine the number of zeros at the end of a factorial, divide the number by powers of 5 and add the quotients. Thus we have

$$x = \left\lfloor \frac{2013}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{2013}{25} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{2013}{125} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{2013}{625} \right\rfloor = 402 + 80 + 16 + 3 = 501. \text{ Thus}$$

$$\log_{167} \left( \frac{x}{3} \right) = \log_{167} \left( \frac{501}{3} \right) = \log_{167} (167) = 1. \text{ B}$$

19. Factoring we have  $(1+i)^7 (3-3i)^6 = 3^6 (1+i) ((1+i)(1-i))^6 = 6^6 (1+i)$  B

20. We will work out this sum from inside to out. So dealing with the inside, it is

common knowledge that  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ . So then we have  $\sum_{n=1}^{2012} \ln \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)$ .

Since the sum of logarithms becomes the logarithm of a product we can reduce this as follows: the denominator will consist of a product of 2012 2's, the numerator will consist of the product

$1 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdots 2012 \cdot 2012 \cdot 2013 = (2012!)(2013!)$ . Thus the result should be

$$\ln \frac{(2012!)(2013!)}{2^{2012}} \quad \text{A.}$$

21. Since  $e^{-y} = e^{3x-6x^2} = \frac{e^{3x}}{e^{6x^2}}$  is decreasing to zero as  $x$  increases towards positive and negative infinity, we have that this value will be maximized where the exponent is maximized, i.e. where  $y = 3x - 6x^2$  is maximized. This is a downward facing parabola, as such its maximum occurs at its vertex  $x = 1$ . In which case  $y = 3$  and  $x + y = 4$ . D

22. We must first find a common base for both sides:

$$128^{-3x} = 4096 \Rightarrow 2^{-21x} = 2^{12} \Rightarrow x = -\frac{12}{21}. \text{ B}$$

23. Vertical asymptotes will occur where the argument is zero. Thus at  $x=5$  and  $x=-2$ . But since the  $x+2$  term in the denominator cancels this is just a hole. Thus the only vertical asymptote is  $x=5$ . C

24. The graph of  $\arctan x$  has horizontal asymptotes at  $y = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}$  thus this graph

has horizontal asymptotes at  $y = e^{\pm \frac{\pi}{4}}$ . C

25. The domain of this function must be so that  $\frac{|x+1|}{x^2+3x+2} > 0$  and

$x^2 + 3x + 2 \neq 0$ . The first inequality is satisfied as long as  $x \notin (-2, -1)$ . The second inequality is satisfied as long as  $x \neq -2, -1$ . Thus the domain is  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-1, \infty)$ . B

26. Continuously compounded interest is modeled by the formula  $A = Pe^{rt}$ . In this case  $A = 1$  and we have \$64 after 9 years. Hence we get

$$64 = 1e^{9r} \Rightarrow r = \frac{6 \ln 2}{9} = \frac{2 \ln 2}{3}. \text{ Thus to determine the amount after 6 years we}$$

$$\text{use the same formula and get } A = 1e^{6\left(\frac{2 \ln 2}{3}\right)} = e^{4 \ln 2} = 16. \quad \text{D}$$

27. We can use a counting argument to determine the binomial coefficients. In the expansion we are looking for terms that have one 'x', one 'y', and four 'z'.

$$\text{As such we can first choose the four 'z' from the six factors, in } \binom{6}{4} = 15$$

ways. We can choose a 'y' from the remaining two factors in exactly

$$\binom{2}{1} = 2 \text{ ways. The remaining factor will give us our 'x' in one way. Thus}$$

$$\text{the term will be } (15)(2)(1)(2z)^4(3y)(x) = 1440xyz^4. \text{ C}$$

$$28. \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{\ln(x+h) + e^{x+h} - \ln x - e^x}{h} = \frac{\ln\left(1 + \frac{h}{x}\right) + e^x(e^h - 1)}{h}. \text{ B}$$

29. We need to change bases in the following manner:

$$\log_5 x + \log_{25} 2x + \log_{125} 3x = 625 \Rightarrow \frac{\log x}{\log 5} + \frac{\log 2x}{\log 5^2} + \frac{\log 3x}{\log 5^3} = 625 \Rightarrow \frac{\log x}{\log 5} + \frac{\log 2x}{2 \log 5} + \frac{\log 3x}{3 \log 5} = 625 =$$

$$\frac{6 \log x + 3 \log 2x + 2 \log 3x}{6 \log 5} = 625 \Rightarrow \log(72x^{11}) = 3570 \log 5 \Rightarrow 5^{3570} = 72x^{11} \Rightarrow x = \sqrt[11]{\frac{5^{3570}}{72}}$$

C

30. This is an infinite geometric sum with common ratio  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Note

$$\log e + \log \sqrt{e} + \log \sqrt[4]{e} + \log \sqrt[8]{e} + \dots = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots. \text{ Thus the sum is } \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} = 2$$

A.

# Mu Alpha Theta National Convention: San Diego, 2013

## Alpha Logarithms & Exponents Test - Updated Solutions

11 (C). Either the base equals 1, in which case,  $x = 1$ ; the exponent equals 0 and the base is nonzero, in which case  $x \in \{2, 3\}$ ; or the base is  $-1$  and the exponent is even, in which case  $x = -1$ . The sum of the fourth powers of all solutions is  $(-1)^4 + 1^4 + 2^4 + 3^4 = 99$ .

14 (B). The expression  $\log_9 n$  will only be rational for integer  $n$  if  $n$  is a power of 3. On the interval  $[1, 2013]$ , there are only seven powers of 3:  $3^0, 3^1, \dots, 3^6$ . For these values, the sum of the outputs from the function is  $0 + .5 + 1 + 1.5 + 2 + 2.5 + 3 = 10.5$ . For the other  $2013 - 7 = 2006$  values, the sum of the outputs of the function is  $2006(.10) = 200.60$ , making the total sum equal  $10.5 + 200.60 = 211.10$ .

19 (B). Change all logarithms to base 4. For the first equation, this becomes

$$\frac{\log_4 x}{3/2} + \log_4 y^2 = \frac{2 \log_4 x}{3} + \log_4 y^2 = \log_4(x^{2/3}y^2) = 5$$

For the second equation, this becomes

$$\frac{\log_4 y}{3/2} + \log_4 x^2 = \frac{2 \log_4 y}{3} + \log_4 x^2 = \log_4(y^{2/3}x^2) = 7$$

Add the two equations together and use some log rules to obtain  $\log_4(xy)^{8/3} = 12$ , or  $4^{12} = (xy)^{8/3}$ , or  $xy = 2^9 = 512$ .

22 (A). If  $(\log_3 p)^2 = \log_3 p^2$ , then either  $\log_3 p = 0$  or  $\log_3 p = 2$ , leading to  $p \in \{1, 9\}$ . The second equation simplifies to  $\log_3(p + q) = \log_3(pq)$ , or  $p + q = pq$ . If  $p = 1$ , then this leads to the contradiction  $1 + q = q$ . Thus,  $p = 9$  and  $q = p/(p - 1) = 9/8$ .

26 (D). We have

$$x^{(\log_2 7)^2} + y^{(\log_3 5)^2} + z^{(\log_5 216)^2} = (x^{(\log_2 7)})^{(\log_2 7)} + (y^{(\log_3 5)})^{(\log_3 5)} + (z^{(\log_5 216)})^{(\log_5 216)}$$

or

$$(x^{(\log_2 7)})^{(\log_2 7)} + (y^{(\log_3 5)})^{(\log_3 5)} + (z^{(\log_5 216)})^{(\log_5 216)} = (8)^{(\log_2 7)} + (81)^{(\log_3 5)} + (\sqrt[3]{5})^{(\log_5 216)}$$

or

$$(2)^{(\log_2 7^3)} + (3)^{(\log_3 5^4)} + (5)^{(\log_5 216^{1/3})} = 7^3 + 5^4 + 216^{1/3} = 974.$$

28 (D). The given information can be re-written as  $2 \log 7 = a$  and  $4 \log 5 = b$ . The second equation can be manipulated to yield

$$\log 5 = \log(10/2) = b/4 \rightarrow \log 10 - \log 2 = \frac{b}{4} \rightarrow 1 - b/4 = \log 2 \rightarrow 2 - b/2 = \log 4$$

Thus, we have

$$\log \frac{1}{28} = -(\log 7 + \log 4) = -\left(\frac{a}{2} + 2 - \frac{b}{2}\right) = \frac{b-a}{2} - 2.$$

29 (C). Let  $u = \log_{4096} x$  and  $v = \log_{2013} y$  so that the equations become  $u + v = 2$  and  $1/u - 1/v = 1$ ; this system has solutions  $(u, v) = (2 \mp \sqrt{2}, \pm\sqrt{2})$ , so that  $u_1 + u_2 = \log_{4096} x_1 + \log_{4096} x_2 = \log_{4096}(x_1 x_2) = 4$  and  $v_1 + v_2 = \log_{2013} y_1 + \log_{2013} y_2 = \log_{2013}(y_1 y_2) = 0$ . By change-of-base, if  $\log_{4096}(x_1 x_2) = 4$ , then  $\log_4(x_1 x_2) = 24$  and if  $\log_{2013}(y_1 y_2) = 0$ , then  $y_1 y_2 = 2013^0 = 1$ . Thus,  $\log_4(x_1 x_2 y_1 y_2) = 24$ .