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The Bordered Antilogarithm Table

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The Committee, though fully recognising the desirability of variety of treatment in the teaching of Mathematics as a general rule, is of opinion that uniformity of method in certain fundamental processes in Arithmetic would be a great convenience, especially in multiplication and division of decimal fractions.

If boys remained at the same school during the whole of their Arithmetic course, each school would be independent in this matter and might reasonably object to any attempt to influence its actions. But such a large proportion of boys at some time change their school (principally in passing from a Preparatory School to a Public School), that the work in certain parts of the Public Schools is handicapped by the want of uniformity of method.

The Committee is consequently endeavouring to find out whether such uniformity is generally considered desirable as far as boys entering the Public Schools are concerned, and, if so, whether anything can be done to secure, if not complete uniformity, at any rate some approximation to it.

At a preliminary discussion the Committee examined the different methods in common use. It appeared that, though much might be said in favour of various methods, the only one at all likely to secure general support is the one described in the accompanying circular.

If the replies to these questions should lead to any result, it is proposed to inform the Preparatory Schools, and it is hoped that a considerable number of them will adopt the methods agreed upon.—Yours faithfully.

G. W. PALMER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE BORDERED ANTILOGARITHM TABLE.

By PROF. G. H. BRYAN, F.R.S., AND T. G. CREAK, M.A.

WHILE in recent years the market has been flooded with small books of mathematical tables, each of which reproduces most of the defects of the others, there are few tables, if any, which meet all requirements when it is necessary to use logarithms for operations involving both multiplication and division. In such cases logarithms of reciprocals are constantly needed. Few tables contain these, a notable exception being the tables at the end of Carson and Smith's *Algebra*. On the other hand, tables of reciprocals are often given, which are rarely of use except in geometrical optics, and only confusion is occasioned by the separation of the tables for logarithms and antilogarithms, and of those for sines and cosines. Either the table of antilogarithms or that of logarithms may be banished with advantage.

If we retain the table of logarithms, it is impossible to obtain logarithms of reciprocals without performing an additional operation, which increases the work and the risk of error. Further, in the lowest parts of the scale the differences are large, and it is difficult to pick out the number which represents the logarithm *correctly* to four or five places of decimals as the case may be.

Now a table of *antilogarithms* may be used to find logarithms of reciprocals in just the same way that sines and cosines can be taken from the same table. The left-hand column and top line contain the actual logarithms of the numbers tabulated in the area of the present table, while the right-hand column and bottom line give the complementary logarithms or logarithms of the reciprocals.

Moreover, in order to secure greater uniformity in the degree of accuracy of working, it will be seen that on the first page the results are tabulated to five significant figures, and on the second to four. The reason of this is that, in order to find the logarithm of a number

correct to four places, the number must be given to five figures in the lower parts of the scale, whereas in the higher parts it need only be given to four figures, and, furthermore, a number in the higher parts of the scale can only be found correct to four figures from a table of four-figure logarithms. It will be seen that by this method the mean differences are neither too small nor too large. The important point to be noticed is that, in order to find a logarithm correct to four places, the mean differences must not be the same in any two columns, and, to ensure this, numbers less than 4 must be known correctly to five significant figures. Two examples will make this clear.

Ex. 1. Multiply 1.058 by 8.926, using four-figure logarithms, the data being approximate.

Here 1.058 means some number between 1.0575 and 1.05849. With the present table we find, therefore,

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \log 1.058 & \text{between } .0243 \text{ and } .0247 & \\ \log 8.926 & = & \underline{.9506} = \underline{.9506} \\ \log \text{ product between } & \underline{.9749} \text{ and } \underline{.9753} & \\ \text{product between } & 9.439 \text{ and } 9.448 & \end{array}$$

Ex. 2. Find the number whose four-figure logarithm is .9457.

Even if the result has *not* been arrived at by the addition of several logarithms, it represents a logarithm lying between .94565 and .945749. If we use a table of five-figure antilogarithms, or a seven-figure table, we shall find that the number lies between 8.8237 and 8.8257. Thus, even if we take the result as 8.825 to four significant figures, there is a possible error of ± 1 in the last place, and the fifth significant figure is of no value whatever.

More generally, since a four-figure logarithm represents an approximate value of a logarithm, the true value of which may differ from it by ± 0.00005 , and since $0.00005 = \log 1.000115$, it follows that the number, when determined from a four-figure logarithm, may differ from its correct value by ± 0.000115 of the whole, or 0.0115 per cent. This does not take into account the cumulative error introduced when logarithms are added together or multiplied by some factor in the calculation of powers.

We may look at the matter in another way by regarding four-figure logarithms as a collection of 10,000 numbers from 0000 to 9999. Accuracy in working depends on choosing the correct one of these numbers, and this is facilitated by tabulating each one separately, as is done here, and giving the required data to the degree of approximation necessary to make the correct choice in every instance.

As the second half of the table does not occupy a whole page, the space is filled up by tables of the logarithms and logarithms of reciprocals of numbers from 10 to 99, as well as the logs and log reciprocals of a few of the most important constants. As there is room on the page, these are given to five places, a plan which should secure greater accuracy when powers and products are found, owing to figures carrying from the fifth to the fourth place.

Personally I have always held that logarithms should be taught before indices, and if this is done it may be necessary to defer the introduction of this table till the pupils have got fairly advanced in their work. As, however, the opposite practice commonly prevails, the use of these tables should, in most cases, facilitate matters. For this reason I have headed the tables "Antilogarithms or Powers of 10." It may be found even better to drop the somewhat clumsy name "Antilogarithm" altogether, and to call the table merely one of "Powers of 10." Whether this change is desirable is probably a point on which differences of opinion exist.

ANTILOGARITHMS OR POWERS OF 10.

Index or Log.											Differences.										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9
-00	10000	022	046	069	093	116	139	162	186	209	10233	2	5	7	9	12	14	16	19	21	-99
-01	10233	257	280	304	328	351	375	399	423	447	10471	2	5	7	10	12	14	17	19	21	-98
-02	10471	495	520	544	568	593	617	641	666	691	10715	2	5	7	10	12	15	17	20	22	-97
-03	10715	740	765	789	814	839	864	889	914	940	10965	3	5	8	10	13	15	18	20	23	-96
-04	10965	990	015	041	066	092	117	143	169	194	11220	3	5	8	10	13	15	18	20	23	-95
-05	11220	246	272	298	324	350	376	402	429	455	11482	3	5	8	11	13	16	18	21	24	-94
-06	11482	508	535	561	588	614	641	668	695	722	11749	3	5	8	11	13	16	19	21	24	-93
-07	11749	776	803	830	858	885	912	940	967	995	12023	3	5	8	11	14	16	19	22	25	-92
-08	12023	050	078	106	134	162	190	218	246	274	12303	3	6	8	11	14	17	20	22	25	-91
-09	12303	331	359	388	417	445	474	503	531	560	12589	3	6	9	11	14	17	20	23	26	-90
-10	12589	618	647	677	706	735	764	794	823	853	12882	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	26	-89
-11	12882	912	942	972	002	032	062	092	122	152	13185	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	-88
-12	13185	213	243	273	303	333	363	397	428	459	13490	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	28	-87
-13	13490	521	552	583	614	646	677	709	740	772	13804	3	6	9	13	16	19	22	25	28	-86
-14	13804	836	868	900	932	964	996	028	060	093	14125	3	6	10	13	16	19	22	26	29	-85
-15	14125	158	191	223	256	289	322	355	388	421	14454	3	7	10	13	16	20	23	26	30	-84
-16	14454	488	521	555	588	622	655	689	723	757	14791	3	7	10	13	17	20	24	27	30	-83
-17	14791	825	859	894	928	962	997	031	066	101	15136	3	7	10	14	17	21	24	28	31	-82
-18	15136	171	205	241	276	311	346	382	417	453	15488	4	7	11	14	18	21	25	28	32	-81
-19	15488	524	560	596	631	668	704	740	776	812	15849	4	7	11	14	18	22	25	29	32	-80
-20	15849	885	922	959	996	032	069	106	144	181	16218	4	7	11	15	18	22	26	30	33	-79
-21	16218	255	293	331	368	406	444	482	520	558	16596	4	8	11	15	19	23	26	30	34	-78
-22	16596	634	672	711	749	788	827	866	904	943	16982	4	8	12	15	19	23	27	31	35	-77
-23	16982	022	061	100	140	179	219	258	298	338	17378	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	-76
-24	17378	418	458	498	539	579	620	660	701	742	17783	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	-75
-25	17783	824	865	906	947	989	030	072	113	155	18197	4	8	12	17	21	25	29	33	37	-74
-26	18197	239	281	323	365	408	450	493	535	578	18621	4	8	13	17	21	25	30	34	38	-73
-27	18621	664	707	750	793	836	880	923	967	011	19055	4	9	13	17	22	26	30	35	39	-72
-28	19055	099	143	187	231	275	320	364	409	454	19498	4	9	13	18	22	26	31	35	40	-71
-29	19498	543	588	634	679	724	770	815	861	907	19953	5	9	14	18	23	27	32	36	41	-70
-30	19953	999	045	091	137	184	230	277	324	370	20417	5	9	14	19	23	28	32	37	42	-69
-31	20417	464	512	559	606	654	701	749	797	845	20899	5	10	14	19	24	29	33	38	43	-68
-32	20899	941	989	038	086	135	184	232	281	330	21380	5	10	15	19	24	29	34	39	44	-67
-33	21380	429	478	528	577	627	677	727	777	827	21878	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	-66
-34	21878	928	979	029	080	131	182	233	284	336	22387	5	10	15	20	25	31	36	41	46	-65
-35	22387	439	491	542	594	646	699	751	803	856	22909	5	10	16	21	26	31	37	42	47	-64
-36	22909	961	014	067	121	174	227	281	336	388	23442	5	11	16	21	27	32	37	43	48	-63
-37	23442	496	550	605	659	714	768	823	878	933	23988	5	11	16	22	27	33	38	44	49	-62
-38	23988	044	099	155	210	266	322	378	434	491	24547	6	11	17	22	28	34	39	45	50	-61
-39	24547	604	660	717	774	831	889	946	003	061	25119	6	11	17	23	29	34	40	46	51	-60
-40	25119	177	236	293	351	410	468	527	586	645	25704	6	12	18	23	29	35	41	47	53	-59
-41	25704	763	823	882	942	002	062	122	182	242	26303	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	-58
-42	26303	363	424	485	546	607	669	730	792	853	26915	6	12	18	24	31	37	43	49	55	-57
-43	26915	977	040	102	164	227	290	353	416	479	27542	6	13	19	25	31	38	44	50	56	-56
-44	27542	606	669	733	797	861	925	990	054	119	28184	6	13	19	26	32	39	45	51	58	-55
-45	28184	249	314	379	445	510	576	642	708	774	28840	7	13	20	26	33	39	46	52	59	-54
-46	28840	907	973	040	107	174	242	309	376	444	29512	7	13	20	27	34	40	47	54	60	-53
-47	29512	580	648	717	785	854	923	992	061	130	30200	7	14	21	28	34	41	48	55	62	-52
-48	30200	259	339	409	479	549	620	690	761	832	30903	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	-51
-49	30903	974	046	117	189	261	333	405	477	550	31623	7	14	22	29	36	43	50	58	65	-50
-50	31623	696	769	842	916	989	063	137	211	285	32359	7	15	22	29	37	44	52	59	66	-49
-51	32359	434	509	584	659	735	809	885	961	037	33113	8	15	23	30	38	45	53	60	68	-48
-52	33113	189	266	343	420	497	574	651	729	806	33884	8	15	23	31	39	46	54	62	69	-47
-53	33884	963	041	119	198	277	356	435	514	594	34674	8	16	24	32	40	48	57	65	73	-46
-54	34674	754	834	914	995	075	156	237	318	400	35481	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	65	73	-45
-55	35481	563	645	727	810	892	975	058	141	224	36308	8	16	25	33	41	50	58	66	74	-44
-56	36308	392	475	559	644	728	813	898	983	068	37154	8	17	25	34	42	51	59	68	76	-43
-57	37154	239	325	411	497	584	670	757	844	931	38019	9	17	26	35	44	52	61	69	78	-42
-58	38019	107	194	282	371	459	548	637	726	815	38905	9	18	27	35	45	54	62	71	80	-41
-59	38905	994	084	174	264	355	446	537	628	719	39811	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	82	-40
-60	39811	902	994	087	179	272	365	458	551	644	40738	9	19	28	37	46	56	65	74	83	-39
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-				

ANTILOGARITHMS OR POWERS OF 10.

ANTILOGARITHMS.

Table of antilogarithms (powers of 10) with columns for index/log, digits 0-9, and differences. Includes sub-sections for reciprocals and a logarithmic scale at the bottom.

ANTILOGARITHMIC RECIPROCAL.

ANTILOGARITHMIC RECIPROCAL.

Table titled 'LOGARITHMS 10 TO 99.' with columns for digits 0-9 and various logarithmic constants like pi, 180/pi, and e.

Table titled 'LOGARITHMS OF RECIPROCAL.' with columns for digits 0-9 and various logarithmic constants like pi, 180/pi, and e.