

The solution to:

$$x \cdot \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^x = \frac{c}{d}$$

Can be computed via:

$$x = \frac{W\left(\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{c}{d}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)}$$

Where  $W$  is the Lambert W Function.

In order to approximate this solution, we split the input domain  $z = \log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{c}{d}$  into:

$$\underbrace{-\infty \dots -1/e} \left| \underbrace{-1/e \dots 0} \right| \underbrace{0 \dots +1/e} \left| \underbrace{+1/e \dots 3 + 1/e} \right| \underbrace{3 + 1/e \dots + \infty}$$

For  $z < -1/e$ , the value of  $W(z)$  is not real.

Respectively, the equation  $x \cdot \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^x = \frac{c}{d}$  has no real solution, because  $x \cdot \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^x \leq e \cdot \log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) < \frac{c}{d}$ .

For  $-1/e \leq z \leq +1/e$ , you may observe that  $x = \frac{W\left(\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{c}{d}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)} = \frac{c}{d} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-n)^{n-1}}{n!} \cdot \left(\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{c}{d}\right)^{n-1}$ :

- For  $-1/e \leq z \leq 0$ , which implies that  $a \leq b$ , we compute  $x = \frac{c}{d} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(+n)^{n-1}}{n!} \cdot \left(\log\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) \cdot \frac{c}{d}\right)^{n-1}$
- For  $0 \leq z \leq +1/e$ , which implies that  $a \geq b$ , we compute  $x = \frac{c}{d} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-n)^{n-1}}{n!} \cdot \left(\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{c}{d}\right)^{n-1}$

As you can see, when  $a = b$ , both formulas can be reduced to  $x = \frac{c}{d}$ .

For  $+1/e < z < 3 + 1/e$ , we use a lookup table which maps 128 uniformly distributed values of  $z$ .

Then, we calculate  $W(z')$  as the weighted-average of  $W(z_0)$  and  $W(z_1)$ , where  $z_0 \leq z' < z_1$ .

For  $z \geq 3 + 1/e$ , we rely on the fact that  $W(z) \approx \log(z) - \log(\log(z)) + \log(\log(z))/\log(z)$ .