

NOTE ON THE DEFINITIONS OF LOGARITHM AND EXPONENTIAL.

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PROFESSOR HASKELL'S interesting and important investigation calls for a modification of my former definitions of the logarithmic and exponential functions.* I propose that the new specifications shall be as follows:

In a circle whose radius is unity OT is fixed and makes an angle β with the real axis, OR turns about O with a constant speed, Q moves along any line ES in the plane with a constant speed, P along OR with a speed proportional to its distance from O .

Following the notation of my former paper, let the velocities of P , Q , R be:

P in OR at $A = \lambda$,

Q in $ES = \mu$,

R in $JRS = \omega$;

and let arc $JR = \theta$,

circular measure

of $ODS = \phi$,

$OP, OQ = p, q$,

$ON, NQ = u, v$,

$ON', N'Q = u', v'$,

$OM, MP = x, y$.

In all logarithmic systems the relation

$$\frac{\omega}{\lambda} = \tan(\phi - \beta)$$

is assumed to exist. This fixes the ratio of the radial to the transversal velocity of P and determines the *form* of the curve upon which P moves. Its *position* may then be determined by fixing two points upon it, and for this purpose we may assume that P crosses the real axis OJ at the instant Q crosses the line ET , and that P crosses the circumference of the unit circle at the instant Q crosses the line OF' which is drawn through the origin perpendicular to ET . As a consequence of these two assumptions, when ES passes through the origin, A coincides with J , and the figure becomes identical with that of my former paper (*loc. cit.* p. 187), which

* *American Journal Mathematics*, vol. 14, p. 187.

