

Changing a number in base b to base 10:

A. When changing a number to base 10 you need to evaluate the following:

$$b^n \times a + \dots + b \times a' + a'' \quad (a, a', a'' \text{ represent different digits and } b \text{ represents the base})$$

B. Let's look at some examples:

Ex [1] $1241_5 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}_{10}$.

a) To change this we need to put the number in this form:

$$5^3 \times 1 + 5^2 \times 2 + 5 \times 4 + 1$$

b) This equates to $125 + 50 + 20 + 1 = 196$.

c) The answer is 196.

Ex [2] $122_3 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}_{10}$.

a) To change this we need to put the number in this form:

$$3^2 \times 1 + 3 \times 2 + 2$$

b) This equates to $9 + 6 + 2 = 17$.

c) The answer is 17.

C. Notice that the highest exponent is always 1 less than the number of digits. This might help in figuring out the answer faster.

Ex [1] $1101100_2 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}_{10}$

a) Since there are 7 numbers we will start with 2^6 .

b) Changing the form we get:

$$2^6 + 2^5 + 2^3 + 2^2 \quad \text{*Notice we can skip the 0's}$$

c) This equates to $64 + 32 + 8 + 4 = 108$. (These powers should be memorized from [here](#)).

d) The answer is 108.