

Radical Exponents

n^{th} root of x :

• n odd: $x^{1/n} = y \iff x = y^n \quad (\forall x \in \mathbb{R})$

• n even: $y = x^{1/n}$ for $x \geq 0$.

• $\sqrt[n]{x} = x^{1/n}$

• $x^{m/n} = \sqrt[n]{x^m} = (x^{1/n})^m$

• $x^{-m/n} = \frac{1}{x^{m/n}}$

$$(ab)^n = a^n \cdot b^n$$

$$(-1)^{48} = (-1)^{2 \times 24} = ((-1)^2)^{24} \\ = 1^{24} = 1$$

$$(a^n)^m = a^{n \cdot m}$$

$$\frac{1}{a^{-n}} = a^n$$

① Simplify:

$$11 \sqrt[11]{\frac{19}{20}} = x^{19/11}$$

$$t^{1/4} \cdot t^{-8} = t^{\frac{1}{4} - 8} = t^{\frac{1-32}{4}} = t^{-31/4}$$

$$(-3 y^{-1}) \cdot (4 y^{-4/3}) = (-3)(4) y^{-1} \cdot y^{-4/3} = -12 y^{-1-4/3} = -12 y^{-7/3}$$

② Eliminate the negative power.

$$\left(\frac{-x^{1/3}}{y^{1/8} z^{-1/3}} \right)^{48} = \frac{(-x^{1/3})^{48}}{(y^{1/8} z^{-1/3})^{48}} = \frac{(-1)^{48} (x^{1/3})^{48}}{(y^{1/8})^{48} (z^{-1/3})^{48}}$$

$$= \frac{x^{48/3}}{y^{48/8} z^{-48/3}}$$

$$= \frac{x^{16}}{y^6 z^{-16}} = \frac{x^{16} \cdot z^{16}}{y^6}$$