

8. [15 points] The cost of computer memory has changed dramatically over time. Let  $C(t)$  be the cost, in dollars per gigabyte, of computer memory  $t$  years after 1956. Some estimated data for  $C$  is provided in the table below.<sup>1</sup>

$t$	0	33	38	44	48	55
$C(t)$	10,000,000	36,000	1000	20	1	0.035

- a. [3 points] Find and interpret, in the context of this problem, the average rate of change of  $C(t)$  for  $33 \leq t \leq 38$ . (Use a complete sentence and include units.)

- b. [4 points] Based on the data provided in the table above, could the function  $C(t)$  be linear, exponential, or neither linear nor exponential? (*Circle one.*)

Linear

Exponential

Neither linear nor exponential

Justify your answer numerically (i.e. show your work and explain your reasoning).

- c. [2 points] Based on the data provided in the table above, is the function  $C(t)$  increasing, decreasing, or neither increasing nor decreasing on the entire interval from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 55$ ? (*Circle one.*)

Increasing

Decreasing

Neither increasing nor decreasing

- d. [2 points] Based on the data provided in the table above, is the function  $C(t)$  concave up, concave down, or neither concave up nor concave down on the entire interval from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 55$ ? (*Circle one.*)

Concave Up

Concave Down

Neither concave up nor concave down

- e. [4 points] Estimate  $C^{-1}(46)$ . Then interpret its meaning in the context of this problem. (Use a complete sentence and include units.)

<sup>1</sup>Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memory\\_storage\\_density](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memory_storage_density)