

3. [5 points] A colony of bacteria triples in size every 6 days. What is the doubling time of this colony? (Show your work step-by-step, give your final answer in **exact form**, and *include units*.)

Solution: The colony is growing exponentially, so if its initial size is a , then its size after t days is ab^t for some constant b . Since the colony triples in size every 6 days, its population when $t = 6$ is $3a$, so $3a = ab^6$. Then $3 = b^6$ so $b = (3)^{1/6}$ and the colony size after t days is $a(3^{1/6})^t = a(3^{t/6})$.

Let d be the doubling time of the colony. Then $2a = a(3^{d/6})$ so $2 = 3^{d/6}$.

Taking the natural logarithm of both sides of this equation and solving for d we find

$$\begin{aligned} 2a &= a(3^{d/6}) \\ 2 &= 3^{d/6} \\ \ln(2) &= \ln(3^{d/6}) \\ \ln(2) &= \frac{d}{6} \ln(3) \\ \frac{6 \ln(2)}{\ln(3)} &= d \end{aligned}$$

Hence the doubling time of this colony is $\frac{6 \ln(2)}{\ln(3)}$ days. (This is approximately 3.79 days.)

Answer: $\frac{6 \ln(2)}{\ln(3)}$ days

4. [6 points] Let $G(m)$ be the mass (in grams) of the garbage in a dumpster m minutes before 8 am. For each of the functions below, find a formula by applying one or more appropriate transformations to the function G . (In each case, your final answer should be a formula involving G .)

- a. [2 points] Let $K(m)$ be the mass (in **kilograms**) of the garbage in the dumpster m minutes before 8 am.

Answer: $K(m) = 0.001G(m)$.

- b. [2 points] Let $L(h)$ be the mass (in kilograms) of the garbage in the dumpster h **hours** before 8 am.

Answer: $L(h) = 0.001G(60h)$.

- c. [2 points] Let $T(h)$ be the mass (in kilograms) of the garbage in the dumpster h hours before **11 am**.

Solution: Note that $T(3) = L(0)$ (since in both cases this gives the mass in kg at 8 am). More generally, $T(h) = L(h - 3) = 0.001G(60(h - 3))$.

Answer: $T(h) = 0.001G(60(h - 3))$ or $0.001G(60h - 180)$.