

8. [15 points] The number of hemlock trees in the southern Appalachian mountains is declining as a result of an infestation of hemlock woolly adelgids (a kind of insect).

- There are  $H(d)$  *healthy* hemlock trees in the southern Appalachian mountains  $d$  days after January 1, 2013.
- There are  $I(d)$  *infested* hemlock trees in the southern Appalachian mountains  $d$  days after January 1, 2013.

Note that all hemlock trees are considered healthy unless they are infested. Be sure to write your final answers *in the spaces provided*.

- a. [2 points] Let  $J(w)$  be the number of *healthy* hemlock trees in the southern Appalachian mountains  $w$  *weeks* after January 1, 2013. Find a formula for  $J(w)$  in terms of the functions  $H$  or  $I$  (or possibly both).

$$J(w) = \frac{H(7w)}{\hspace{10em}}$$

- b. [3 points] Let  $F(d)$  be the fraction of the hemlock trees in the southern Appalachian mountains that are *infested*  $d$  days after January 1, 2013. Find a formula for  $F(d)$  in terms of the functions  $H$  or  $I$  (or possibly both).

$$F(d) = \frac{I(d)}{H(d) + I(d)} \hspace{10em}$$

- c. [4 points] Let  $K(d)$  be the total number of hemlock trees in the southern Appalachian mountains, in *thousands*,  $d$  days after January 1, 2013. Find a formula for  $K(d)$  in terms of the functions  $H$  or  $I$  (or possibly both).

$$K(d) = \frac{0.001(H(d) + I(d))}{\hspace{10em}}$$

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- d. [3 points] The number of hemlock trees  $I$  that are *infested* in the southern Appalachian mountains is *inversely proportional* to the cube of the total amount of money  $M$  (in millions of dollars) that the government spends combating the spread of the adelgids. Write a formula for  $I$  in terms of  $M$ , assuming that there were 2,000 infested trees when the government had spent 3 million dollars. You must **show your work** for this part.

**Solution:** Since  $I$  is inversely proportional to the cube of  $M$ , we have:

$$I = \frac{k}{M^3}$$

We know that  $I = 2000$  when  $M = 3$ , which gives us:

$$2,000 = \frac{k}{3^3}$$

and so we have  $k = 3^3 \cdot 2,000 = 162,000$ .

$$I = \frac{162,000}{M^3}$$

- e. [3 points] The number of hemlock woolly adelgids  $A(M)$  (in millions) is also a function of the amount of money  $M$  (in millions of dollars) that the government spends to try to preserve the hemlock trees, and is given by:

$$A(M) = \frac{4}{M}$$

for  $M \geq 4$ . Find the equation of the horizontal asymptote of  $y = A(M)$ , **and** interpret this horizontal asymptote in practical terms.

**Solution:** It's easy to see that the horizontal asymptote is  $y = 0$ . Practically, this means that as the amount of money the government spends increases (going to  $\infty$ ), the number of hemlock woolly adelgids in the southern Appalachian mountains approaches 0.

The equation of the horizontal asymptote is  $y = 0$