

3. (8 pts) Below is a table of values for the function  $C(t)$ .

$t$	3	5	7	9	11	13	15
$C(t)$	2.1	4.2	6.3	8.6	11.5	14.1	18.4

a) Could  $C(t)$  be linear? If so, give a formula. If not, demonstrate that it is not. Show your calculations.

No. If  $C(t)$  were linear, then  $C(t+2) - C(t)$  would be equal to  $C(7) - C(5)$  for all  $t$ . But  $C(7) - C(5) = 2.1$  and  $C(9) - C(7) = 2.3$ , which are not equal.

b) Could  $C(t)$  be exponential? If so, give a formula. If not, demonstrate that it is not. Show your calculations.

No. If  $C(t)$  were linear, say  $C(t) = k \cdot a^t$ , then  $\frac{C(t+2)}{C(t)}$  would be equal to  $a^2$  for any  $t$ . But  $\frac{C(5)}{C(3)} = 2$  and  $\frac{C(7)}{C(5)} = \frac{3}{2}$ .