

7. [12 points] Phillip Asafy and Genevieve Omicks both enjoy hot chocolate when it's cool outside. They made a few measurements, and these appear in the table below.

$P$ (respectively $G$ ) is Phil's (respectively Gen's) consumption of hot chocolate (in quarts, measured to the nearest tenth of a quart) in a month when the average daily high temperature is $H$ (in degrees Celsius, measured to the nearest degree).	$H$ ( $^{\circ}C$ )	$P$ (quarts)	$G$ (quarts)
	3	16.1	13.3
	7	12.8	11.6
	15	8.0	6.5

- a. [8 points] Based on this data, could either student's monthly hot chocolate consumption be reasonably modeled as a linear function of average daily high temperature? An exponential function? Neither? Carefully justify your answer in the space below.

(Hint: *At least* one of these can be modeled by a linear or an exponential function!)

*Solution:* First consider Phil's hot chocolate consumption. Suppose  $P = p(H)$ . To check whether  $p(H)$  could be modeled by a linear function, we compute the average rate of change of  $p$  over the intervals  $[3, 7]$  and  $[7, 15]$ . We have

$$\frac{p(7) - p(3)}{7 - 3} = \frac{12.8 - 16.1}{4} = -0.825 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{p(15) - p(7)}{15 - 7} = \frac{8.0 - 12.8}{8} = -0.6.$$

Since these two average rates of change are quite different, Phil's hot chocolate consumption is not reasonably modeled by a linear function. To check whether  $p(H)$  could be modeled by an exponential function, we compute the percent rate of change of  $p(H)$  over the intervals  $[3, 7]$  and  $[7, 15]$ . We have

$$\left(\frac{p(7)}{p(3)}\right)^{\frac{1}{7-3}} = \left(\frac{12.8}{16.1}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \approx 0.9443 \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{p(15)}{p(7)}\right)^{\frac{1}{15-7}} = \left(\frac{8.0}{12.8}\right)^{\frac{1}{8}} \approx 0.9429.$$

The difference between these percent rates of change is less than 0.2%, so based on this data,  $p(H)$  can be reasonably modeled by an exponential function. In particular, we can check that we obtain the data in the table for  $P$  using, for example,  $19.2(0.9435)^H$

Now consider Gen's hot chocolate consumption. Suppose  $G = g(H)$ . From the calculations

$$\frac{g(7) - g(3)}{7 - 3} = \frac{11.6 - 13.3}{4} = -0.425 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{g(15) - g(7)}{15 - 7} = \frac{6.5 - 11.6}{8} = -0.6375$$

we conclude that Gen's hot chocolate consumption is not reasonably modeled by a linear function. From the calculations

$$\left(\frac{g(7)}{g(3)}\right)^{\frac{1}{7-3}} = \left(\frac{11.6}{13.3}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \approx 0.9664 \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{g(15)}{g(7)}\right)^{\frac{1}{15-7}} = \left(\frac{6.5}{11.6}\right)^{\frac{1}{8}} \approx 0.9302$$

we conclude that Gen's hot chocolate consumption can't be reasonably modeled by an exponential function.

(Note that for the exponential cases we could instead compare, for example,  $\left(\frac{p(7)}{p(3)}\right)^2$  with  $\frac{p(15)}{p(7)}$ .)

**Answers:** Circle one choice for each student.

Phil's consumption  $P$ :            linear             exponential            neither linear nor exponential

Gen's consumption  $G$ :            linear            exponential             neither linear nor exponential

- b. [4 points] For this investigation, their friend Maddy measures temperature in degrees Fahrenheit, and she measures her hot chocolate consumption in cups. She finds a function  $M(f)$  which is the number of cups of hot chocolate she consumes in a month when the average daily high temperature is  $f$  degrees Fahrenheit. If  $Q(H)$  is the number of *quarts* of hot chocolate Maddy consumes when the average monthly temperature is  $H$  degrees *Celsius*, write a formula for  $Q(H)$  in terms of  $M$  and  $H$ .

Recall that there are 4 cups in a quart and that the conversion from Fahrenheit to Celsius is given by  $y = \frac{5}{9}(x - 32)$  (where  $y^\circ C$  and  $x^\circ F$  describe the same temperature).

*Solution:*  $H$  degrees Celsius is the same as  $\frac{9}{5}H + 32$  degrees Fahrenheit, and  $M\left(\frac{9}{5}H + 32\right)$  gives Maddy's hot chocolate consumption in cups. We divide this quantity by 4 to convert from cups to quarts.

$$\text{Answer: } Q(H) = \frac{M\left(\frac{9}{5}H + 32\right)}{4}$$