

3. [10 points] The number of years, t , that it takes a quantity of money to double when it earns an annual interest rate of $r\%$ is given by

$$t = f(r) = \frac{\ln(2)}{\ln\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right)}.$$

- a. [3 points] Find a formula for $f^{-1}(t)$; that is, solve the above equation for r in terms of t . *Show your work.*

Solution: First, multiply both sides by $\ln\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right)$ and divide both sides by t to get

$$\ln\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right) = \frac{\ln(2)}{t}.$$

Then apply the exponential function with base e to both sides to get

$$1 + \frac{r}{100} = e^{(\ln 2)/t} = 2^{1/t}.$$

Finally, subtract 1 from both sides and then multiply by 100 to get

$$r = 100 \cdot \left(e^{(\ln 2)/t} - 1\right) = 100 \cdot \left(2^{1/t} - 1\right).$$

Answer: $r = f^{-1}(t) = \underline{100 \cdot (e^{(\ln 2)/t} - 1) \quad \text{or} \quad 100 \cdot (2^{1/t} - 1)}$

- b. [2 points] Write a single equation that represents the statement below. (Your answer may include the letter f .)

Your money takes twice as long to double when it earns 4% interest as it does when it earns 8.2% interest.

Answer: $\underline{f(4) = 2f(8.2)}$

- c. [2 points] Circle the **one** equation below that best represents the following statement:

Your money takes about three months longer to double when it earns 5.2% interest than when it earns 5.3% interest.

i. $f'(5.2) = 0.25$

iv. $f'(5.2) = -2.5$

ii. $f'(5.2) = -30$

v. $f'(5.2) = 3$

iii. $f'(5.3) - f'(5.2) = 3$

vi. $f(5.3) - f(5.2) = 0.25$

- d. [3 points] Complete the sentence below by writing positive numbers in the blanks and circling either HIGHER or LOWER to give a practical interpretation of the following equation:

$$(f^{-1})'(12) = -0.5.$$

If your money will double in 12 years at the current interest rate, but you want it to double six months earlier, then you will need to invest at an interest rate that is about 0.25 percent higher / lower than the current one.