

## Linear and exponential growth

12 grams (g) of a chemical are added to a metal. The amount  $A$ , in grams, of the chemical remaining during a reaction with a metal plate decreases by 0.5 g per second. If instead the plate were dissolved, the amount  $\hat{A}$ , in grams, of chemical remaining would decrease by half of itself every 4 seconds. How many grams greater is  $A$  than  $\hat{A}$  after 12 seconds?

$w$		1	2	4	8	16	32
$C$		30	60	120	240	480	960

Laxman recently started a restaurant 32 weeks ago. The table above shows the number of customers,  $C$ , during the  $w^{\text{th}}$  week. Which of the following correctly explains the growth of  $C$  with respect to  $w$ ?

- A The number of customers per week grew linearly because the number of customers per week increased by approximately 30 every week.
- B The number of customers per week grew linearly because the number of customers per week increased by approximately 100 percent every week.
- C The number of customers per week grew exponentially because the number of customers per week increased by approximately 30 every week.
- D The number of customers per week grew exponentially because the number of customers per week increased by approximately 100 percent every week.

An old computer program which computes the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number takes 0.05 microseconds ( $\mu\text{s}$ ) to compute the 1<sup>st</sup> number. After this, each number takes twice as long as the previous number to compute. A computer engineer designs a new program which takes 0.8  $\mu\text{s}$  to compute the 1<sup>st</sup> Fibonacci number. After this, each number takes 0.6  $\mu\text{s}$  longer than the previous number to compute. How much longer in microseconds does it take the old program to compute the 8<sup>th</sup> Fibonacci number compared to the new program?

- A 0.8
- B 1.4
- C 5.0
- D 6.4

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$$s = 320 + 115t$$

The equation above approximates the relationship wildlife veterinarians found between the amount  $t$  of cortisol (a stress hormone), in micrograms per deciliter ( $\frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$ ), in a wild harbor seal's tears to the amount  $s$  of cortisol, in  $\frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$ , in the seal's serum. Which of the following statements best describes the relationship between the amount of cortisol in a seal's tears and serum?

- A It is linear because there is an  $11.5 \frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$  increase in  $s$  for every  $0.1 \frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$  increase in  $t$ .
- B It is linear because there is a  $32 \frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$  increase in  $s$  for every  $0.1 \frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$  increase in  $t$ .
- C It is exponential because there is a 15% increase in  $s$  for every  $0.01 \frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$  increase in  $t$ .
- D It is exponential because there is a 220% increase in  $s$  for every  $0.01 \frac{\mu\text{g}}{\text{dl}}$  increase in  $t$ .

$$r = 35.7 + 1.37t$$

The equation above relates the urbanization rate  $r$ , as a percent, in a particular country to the number of years  $t$  since 2000. Which of the following statements best describes the relationship between the years since 2000 and the urbanization rate?

- A It is linear because the urbanization rate increases by 35.7 each year.
- B It is linear because the urbanization rate increases by 1.37 each year.
- C It is exponential because the urbanization rate increases by 37% each year.
- D It is exponential because the urbanization rate increases by a factor of 35.7 each year.