

Mathematics 122

Quiz #4

Name:

Key

You must show your work to get full credit.

- (1) Explain why the following function could be an exponential function. (This will involve both doing some calculations and writing an English sentence explaining why these calculations are relevant.)

| t | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----|------|-------|---------|
| P(t) | 1.5 | 3.15 | 6.615 | 13.8915 |

$$a = \text{ratio} = \frac{P(t+1)}{P(t)} = \frac{3.15}{1.5} = \frac{6.615}{3.15} = \frac{13.8915}{6.615} = 2.1$$

The ratios are constant, so it is an exponential function.

- (2) Give a formula for P(t).

$$P(t) = 1.5(2.1)^t$$

$$P(t) = P_0 a^t = 1.5(2.1)^t$$

- (3) What is the doubling time of P(t)?

.9342

so we

$$1.5(2.1)^t = 2(1.5)$$

$$(2.1)^t = 2$$

$$t \ln(2.1) = \ln(2)$$

$$t = \frac{\ln(2)}{\ln(2.1)} = .9342$$