

December 14, 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am delighted to confirm Emily Robinson's status as a Ph.D. student at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, in the Statistics Department. Emily's submission to the student paper competition, "Perception of exponentially increasing data displayed on a log scale" is her own work, though she was advised by myself and Dr. Reka Howard. She designed the experiment, collected the data, performed the analysis, and wrote the paper; we simply offered suggestions along the way. This paper has not been submitted to any journals yet, though we do intend to submit it to a journal once we have expanded the studies to include other modes of interacting with the data, including prediction and estimation.

Emily's work here is an outgrowth of some discussions we have had about the use of linear and log scales to display COVID-19 case counts. While this experiment is not directly related to COVID-19, our goal has been to understand how people perceive log and linear case counts in approximately exponentially growing series. Emily's work is an excellent first step along this path, and I expect that she will continue working to understand how graphics are perceived and used during the rest of her time at UNL.

Sincerely,



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