

Lecture 21

Today's topics:-

- Interpreting differential equation models
- Exponential processes

• Watch Mobius Lec 19

• EoL 19

- Tutorial today:
group work (for credit)

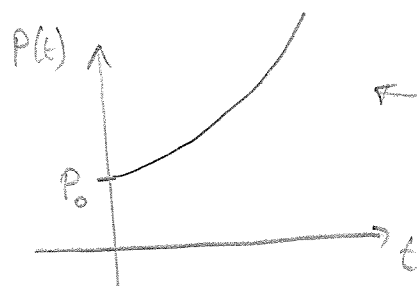
Recall:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP$$

model assumes
growth rate prop. to
size of P .

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{kt}$$

has solution
of exponential growth ($k > 0$)



← increases without bound.

More realistic:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left(1 - \frac{P}{10000} \right)$$

↑
"carrying capacity"

• Solution slightly beyond m127.11

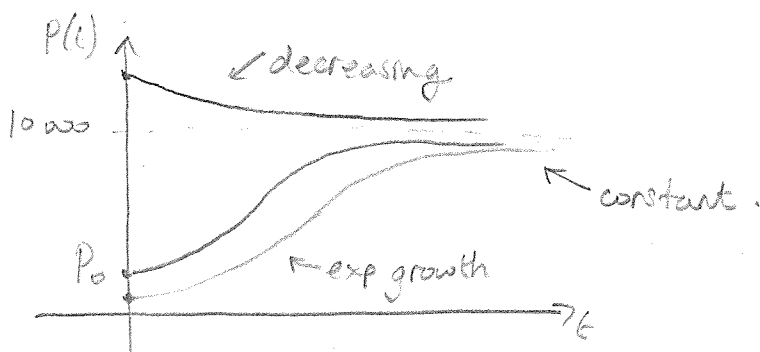
• How can we interpret such models?

Behaviour of $\frac{dP}{dt}$

For $P \ll 0$, $1 - \frac{P}{10000} \approx 1 \Rightarrow P' \approx kP$ (exp growth)

For $P \approx 10000$, $1 - \frac{P}{10000} \approx 0 \Rightarrow P' \approx 0$ (constant)

For $P > 10000$, $1 - \frac{P}{10000} < 0 \Rightarrow P' < 0$ (decreasing pop)



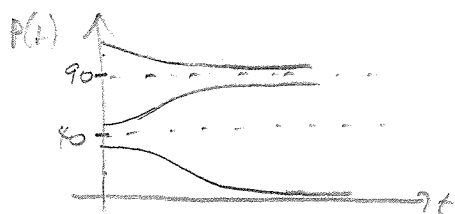
Further refined model

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left(1 - \frac{40}{P} \right) \left(1 - \frac{P}{90} \right)$$

"Allee threshold" (40) due to e.g. difficulty finding a mate for small populations.
 "carrying capacity" (90)

When is $\frac{dP}{dt} \geq 0$?

Find critical pts where $\frac{dP}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow P=0, 40, 90$.



• Population goes extinct for $P < 40$ - the Allee threshold.

Exponential Processes

- Many scientific phenomena involve proportionality between variables & their rates of change

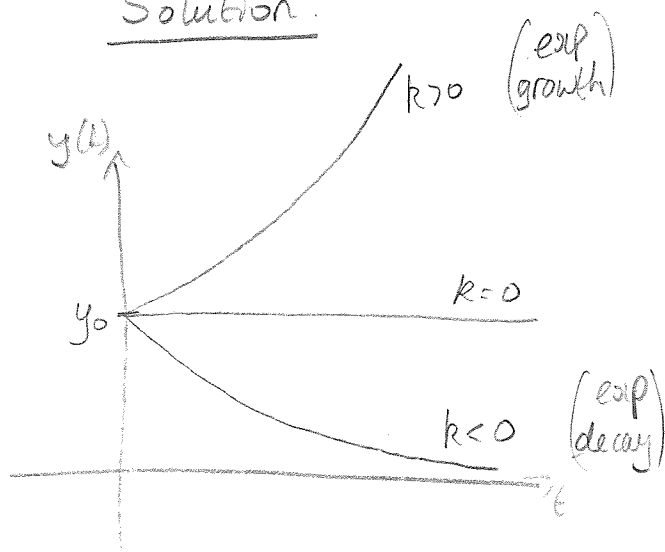
Eg/ pop growth, heat loss, instagram likes??

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k y$$

$k > 0$: exponential growth

$k < 0$: exponential decay.

Solution.



$$y(t) = y_0 e^{kt}$$

Doubling time ($k > 0$) / Half-life ($k < 0$)

For exponential growth, ($k > 0$)
how long before $y(t)$ doubles?

Find t^* such that $y(t^*) = 2y_0$

$$y_0 e^{kt^*} = 2y_0$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{kt^*} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow kt^* = \ln 2$$

$$\Rightarrow t^* = \frac{\ln 2}{k} \quad \leftarrow \text{doubling time}$$

Exc/ Show that half-life
(time at which $y(t) = \frac{1}{2}y_0$)
for exp. decay is

$$t^* = -\frac{\ln 2}{k}$$

Example: Radioactive decay.

A particular isotope of californium-250 has a half-life of 13.1 years. 50 mg of the chemical is left on a shelf for 50 years. How many mg remain?

Break it down:

→ exp decay: $y(t) = y_0 e^{kt}$ ($k < 0$).

→ half-life: $y(13.1) = \frac{y_0}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow y_0 e^{k(13.1)} = \frac{y_0}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{k(13.1)} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 13.1k = \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \Rightarrow k = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{13.1}$$

knowing half-life gives us k !

→ initial mass $y(0) = y_0 = 50 \text{ mg}$

→ predict $y(50)$? $y(50) = 50 e^{\frac{\ln(\frac{1}{2})}{13.1}(50)} \approx 3.55 \text{ mg}$

∴ about 3.55 mg remain after 50 yrs.

Exponential Convergence.

We've seen $\begin{cases} \text{exp. growth } y = e^{kt} \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty, (k > 0) \\ \text{exp decay } y = e^{kt} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty, (k < 0) \end{cases}$

What about exponential process of a cooling coffee?

