

9.4 examples

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Calculus BC – section 9.4 – The Logistic Equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky \left(1 - \frac{y}{A} \right) \quad Y = \frac{A}{1 - e^{-kt}/C} = \frac{A}{1 - ce^{-kt}}$$

Example 1

Solve $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.3y(4-y)$ with initial condition $y(0) = 1$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.3y \cdot 4 \left(1 - \frac{y}{4} \right) = 1.2y \left(1 - \frac{y}{4} \right)$$

$$Y = \frac{4}{1 - ce^{-1.2t}}$$

$$Y = \frac{4}{1 + 3e^{-1.2t}}$$

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Example 2

A 10,000-acre forest has a carrying capacity of 1000 deer. Assume that the deer population grows logistically with growth constant $k = 0.4 \text{ yr}^{-1}$.

a) Find the deer population $P(t)$ if the initial population P_0 is 100.

$$P = \frac{1000}{1 - ce^{-kt}} \quad 100 = \frac{1000}{1 - c} \quad c = -9$$

$$P = \frac{1000}{1 + 9e^{-0.4t}}$$

b) How long does it take the deer population to reach 500?

$$\begin{aligned} 500 &= \frac{1000}{1 + 9e^{-0.4t}} \\ 500 + 4500e^{-0.4t} &= 1000 \\ e^{-0.4t} &= \frac{1}{9} \\ -0.4t &= \ln \frac{1}{9} \end{aligned} \quad \rightarrow \quad t = 5.493 \text{ years}$$

A rumor spreads through a school with 1000 students. The number of students grows logarithmically. 5 students know it initially. After 1 hour 100 students know it. When do 500 students know it?

$$p = \frac{1000}{1 - ce^{-kt}}$$

$$5 = \frac{1000}{1 - c} \quad c = -199$$

$$p = \frac{1000}{1 + 199e^{-kt}}$$

$$100 = \frac{1000}{1 + 199e^{-kt}}$$

$$100 + 19,900e^{-kt} = 1000$$

$$19,900e^{-kt} = 900$$

$$e^{-kt} = 0.0452$$

$$-kt = -3.096$$

$$k = 3.096$$

$$500 = \frac{1000}{1 + 199e^{-3.096t}}$$

$$1 + 199e^{-3.096t} = 2$$

$$199e^{-3.096t} = 1$$

$$e^{-3.096t} = \frac{1}{199}$$

$$-3.096t = -5.293$$

$$t = 1.709$$

5.42
5, 7, 9