

19.4 Exponential models

Given a function $f(t)$

$$f'(t) = k f(t) \iff f(t) = C e^{kt}$$

for some C .

C is given by

$$C = f(0)$$

$k > 0$: rate of growth is proportional
to the amount,

exponential growth
(population)

$k < 0$: rate of decay is prop.
to the amount,

exponential decay

(radioactive decay)

Ex 1 Let $y(x)$ be a function
satisfying $y' = -2y$ and $y(3) = 2$
Determine $y(x)$.

$$y(x) = C e^{-2x}$$

$$y(3) = C e^{-2 \cdot 3} = 2$$

$$C = 2 \cdot e^6$$

$$C e^{-6} = 2$$

$$C = \frac{2}{e^{-6}}$$

$$y(x) = 2 e^6 e^{-2x}$$

Ex 2 Let $P_1(t)$, $P_2(t)$ be the popu.

of two types of bacteria. They satisfy

the exp. growth models $P_1' = P_1$,

and $P_2' = 4P_2$, with initial condition

$$P_1(0) = 16, P_2(0) = 1$$

- (1) Determine $P_1(t)$, $P_2(t)$
- (2) When will their popu. be the same?
- (3) At $t=10$, which popu. is larger?

$$(1) \quad P_1(t) = 16e^t$$

$$P_2(t) = 1 \cdot e^{4t}$$

$$(2) \quad 16e^t = e^{4t}$$

$$16 = e^{3t}$$

$$\ln 16 = 3t$$

$$t = \frac{\ln 16}{3} \approx 0.924$$

(3) P_2 is larger at $t = 10$.

• The doubling time of exp. growth model is the time it takes to double the popu.

$$\text{Suppose } P(t) = C e^{kt}$$

$$P(0) = C$$

want t such that $P(t) = 2C$

$$C e^{kt} = 2C$$

$$e^{kt} = 2$$

$$kt = \ln 2$$

$$t = \frac{\ln 2}{k}$$

doubling time: $T = \frac{\ln 2}{k}$

- The half-life of exp. decay model is the time it takes to half of initial amount.

$$\text{If } f'(t) = -k f(t) \quad k > 0$$

then the half-life

$$t_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{k}$$

Ex 3 The half-life of C^{14} is

5760 years. Suppose the original amount of C^{14} in an organism is 10 g and its present amount is 0.002 g.

(1) What's its age?

(2) When there are only 1000 C^{14} atoms left, what's its age?

(a C^{14} atom has mass 2.3×10^{-23} g)

$$(1) \quad t_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{k} = 5760$$

$$k = \frac{\ln 2}{5760} \approx 0.00012$$

$$f(t) = 10 e^{-0.00012t}$$

$$f(t) = 0.002, \quad t = ?$$

$$10 e^{-0.00012t} = 0.002$$

$$e^{-0.00012t} = 0.0002$$

$$-0.00012t = \ln 0.0002$$

$$t = \frac{\ln 0.0002}{-0.00012} \approx 70977 \text{ years}$$

$$(2) \quad f(t) = 2.3 \times 10^{-20}$$

$$10 e^{-0.00012t} = 2.3 \times 10^{-20}$$

$$e^{-0.00012t} = 2.3 \times 10^{-21}$$

$$-0.00012t = \ln(2.3 \times 10^{-21})$$

$$t = \frac{\ln(2.3 \times 10^{-21})}{-0.00012} \approx 396011 \text{ years}$$

• Newton's law of cooling.

The temperature of an object satisfies

$$T'(t) = -k(T(t) - T_0)$$

$$k > 0$$

T_0 : environment temperature.

$$\text{Let } y(t) = T(t) - T_0$$

$$y'(t) = T'(t)$$

$$y'(t) = -k y(t)$$

$$y(t) = C \cdot e^{-kt}$$

$$\boxed{T_1 = T(0)}$$

$$C = y(0)$$

$$= T_1 - T_0$$

$$T(t) = T_0 + (T_1 - T_0) e^{-kt}$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T(t) = T_0$$

Ex 4 Let the room temp. be 70°F .

Suppose it takes 10 min for a cup of boiled water (212°F) to cool to 100°F , how long does it take to further cool to 80°F ?

$$T(t) = 70 + (212 - 70)e^{-kt}$$

$$T(10) = 70 + 142e^{-10k} = 100$$

$$142 e^{-10k} = 30$$

$$e^{-10k} = \frac{30}{142}$$

$$-10k = \ln \frac{30}{142}$$

$$k = \frac{\ln \frac{30}{142}}{-10} \approx 0.155$$

Want t such that $T(t) = 80$

$$70 + 142 e^{-0.155 t} = 80$$

$$142 e^{-0.155 t} = 10$$

$$e^{-0.155 t} = \frac{10}{142}$$

$$-0.155 t = \ln \frac{10}{142}$$

$$t = \frac{\ln \frac{10}{142}}{-0.155} \approx 7.1$$

time from 100°F to 80°F is 7.1 min.

• The differential equation

$$f''(t) = -k^2 f(t).$$

$$(\sin kt)'' = (k \cos kt)'$$

$$= -k^2 \sin kt.$$

$$(\cos kt)'' = (-k \sin kt)'$$

$$= -k^2 \cos kt$$

In general,

$$f(t) = A \sin kt + B \cos kt.$$

(Spring, pendulum, wave,
predator-prey)