

## Section 5: First Order Equations Models and Applications

**A Classic Mixing Problem** If we are tracking the amount  $A$  of some substance (e.g. salt) dissolved in some fluid in which we know the flow rates at which fluid is entering ( $r_i$ ) and leaving ( $r_o$ ) a receptacle, the initial volume  $V(0)$  of fluid, and the substance concentration of the inflow  $c_i$ , then for a **well mixed** solution

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = r_i \cdot c_i - r_o \frac{A}{V}.$$

Here  $V(t) = V(0) + (r_i - r_o)t$ . This equation is first order linear

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{r_o}{V}A = r_i c_i$$

There is nothing precluding one of the coefficients such as  $r_o$ ,  $r_i$  or  $c_i$  from being a nonconstant function of time.

## Solve the Mixing Problem

A tank originally contains 500 gallons of pure water. Brine containing 2 pounds of salt per gallon is pumped in at a rate of 5 gal/min. The well mixed solution is pumped out at the same rate. Find the amount of salt  $A(t)$  in pounds at the time  $t$ . Find the concentration of the mixture in the tank at  $t = 5$  minutes.

We determined that

$$r_i = 5 \text{ gal/min}, c_i = 2 \text{ lb/gal}, r_o = 5 \text{ gal/min}, V(0) = 500 \text{ gal},$$

$$A(0) = 0, \text{ and } c_o = \frac{A}{500}. \quad V(t) = 500 + (5 - 5)t = 500$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + r_o c_o = r_i c_i$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + S \left( \frac{A}{500} \right) = S \cdot 2 \quad A(10) = 0$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{1}{100} A = 10 \quad P(t) = \frac{1}{100}$$

$$\mu: e^{\int \frac{1}{100} dt} = e^{\frac{1}{100} t}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( e^{\frac{1}{100} t} A \right) = 10 e^{\frac{1}{100} t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\frac{1}{100} t} A &= \int 10 e^{\frac{1}{100} t} dt \\ &= 10(100) e^{\frac{1}{100} t} + k \end{aligned}$$

$$A = 1000 + k e^{-\frac{1}{100}t}$$

Apply  $A(0) = 0$

$$A(0) = 1000 + k e^0 = 0$$

$$1000 + k = 0 \Rightarrow k = -1000$$

The amount of salt at time  $t$  is

$$A(t) = 1000 - 1000 e^{-\frac{1}{100}t}$$

The concentration in the tank  $C$  is

$$C(t) = \frac{A(t)}{V(t)} = \frac{1000 - 1000 e^{-\frac{1}{100}t}}{500}$$

$\frac{\text{lb}}{\text{gal}}$

At  $t = 5$  minutes

$$C(5) = \frac{1000 - 1000 e^{-\frac{1}{100} \cdot 5}}{500} \approx 0.0975 \quad \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{gal}}$$

Note that in the long run the concentration

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C(t) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1000 - 1000 e^{-\frac{1}{100}t}}{500} \\ &= \frac{1000}{500} = 2 \quad \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{gal}} \end{aligned}$$

$$r_i \neq r_o$$

Suppose that instead, the mixture is pumped out at 10 gal/min. Determine the differential equation satisfied by  $A(t)$  under this new condition.

$$r_i = 5 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{min}} \quad C_i = 2 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{gal}} \quad r_o = 10 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{min}}$$

$$V(t) = V(0) + (r_i - r_o)t = 500 + (5 - 10)t = 500 - 5t$$

$$\text{so } C_o = \frac{A}{V} = \frac{A}{500 - 5t}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + r_o C_o = r_i C_i$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + 10 \left( \frac{A}{500-5t} \right) = 5 \cdot 2$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{2}{100-t} A = 10$$

This is only valid for  $0 < t < 100$ . Note that  $V(100) = 500 - 5(100) = 0$ . The volume is zero (tank is empty) at 100 minutes.

## A Nonlinear Modeling Problem

A population  $P(t)$  of tilapia changes at a rate jointly proportional to the current population and the difference between the constant carrying capacity<sup>1</sup>  $M$  of the environment and the current population. Determine the differential equation satisfied by  $P$ .

rate of change  $\frac{dP}{dt}$  is proportional to  $P$  and  
proportional to  $M-P$ .

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP(M-P) \quad \text{for some constant of proportionality } k.$$

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<sup>1</sup>The carrying capacity is the maximum number of individuals that the environment can support due to limitation of space and resources.



# Logistic Differential Equation

The equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP(M - P), \quad k, M > 0$$

is called a **logistic growth equation**.

Solve this equation<sup>2</sup> and show that for any  $P(0) \neq 0$ ,  $P \rightarrow M$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Let  $P(0) = P_0$ . The ODE is separable

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP(M - P) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{P(M - P)} \frac{dP}{dt} = k$$

$$\int \frac{1}{P(M - P)} dP = \int k dt$$

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<sup>2</sup>The partial fraction decomposition

$$\frac{1}{P(M - P)} = \frac{1}{M} \left( \frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{M - P} \right)$$

is useful.

$$\int \frac{1}{m} \left( \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{m-p} \right) dp = \int k dt$$

$$\int \left( \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{m-p} \right) dp = \int k m dt$$

$$\ln|p| - \ln|m-p| = k m t + C$$

$$\ln \left| \frac{p}{m-p} \right| = k m t + C$$

$$\frac{p}{m-p} = A e^{k m t}$$

where  
 $A = e^C$  or  $A = -e^C$

Using  $P(0) = P_0$

$$\frac{P_0}{M - P_0} = Ae^0 \Rightarrow$$

$$A = \frac{P_0}{M - P_0}$$

Solve for P

$$P = Ae^{knt} (M - P)$$

$$= AMe^{knt} - APe^{knt}$$

$$P + APe^{knt} = AMe^{knt}$$

$$(1 + Ae^{knt})P = AMe^{knt}$$

$$P(t) = \frac{AM e^{kmt}}{1 + A e^{kmt}}$$

use  $A = \frac{P_0}{M - P_0}$

$$P(t) = \frac{\frac{P_0}{M - P_0} M e^{kmt}}{1 + \frac{P_0}{M - P_0} e^{kmt}}$$

$\left( \frac{M - P_0}{M - P_0} \right)$  ← clearing fractions

$$P(t) = \frac{P_0 M e^{kmt}}{M - P_0 + P_0 e^{kmt}}$$

Solution to the logistic equation.

For  $P_0 \neq 0$ , we take  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_0 M e^{kMt}}{M - P_0 + P_0 e^{kMt}}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{P_0 M e^{kMt}}{M - P_0 + P_0 e^{kMt}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{e^{-kMt}}{e^{-kMt}} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_0 M}{(M - P_0) e^{-kMt} + P_0}$$

$$= \frac{P_0 M}{(M - P_0) \cdot 0 + P_0} = \frac{P_0 M}{P_0} = M$$