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Section 5: First Order Equations Models and Applications

Classic Mixing Problem: r_i = inflow rate of fluid, c_i = concentration of inflowing fluid, r_o = outflow rate of fluid The concentration c_o of the outflowing fluid is

$$\frac{\text{total salt}}{\text{total volume}} = \frac{A(t)}{V(t)} = \frac{A(t)}{V(0) + (r_i - r_o)t}$$

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

This equation is first order linear.

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 5gal/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 found the amount of salt at time t to be $A(t) = 1000 - 1000e^{-t/100}$ lbs, and the concentration at $t = 5$ to be about 0.098 lb/gal.

$$r_i \neq r_o$$

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

$$\text{From before : } r_i = 5 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{min}}, \quad C_i = 2 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{gal}}$$

$$\text{New info : } r_o = 10 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{min}}$$

$$C_o = \frac{A(t)}{V(t)} = \frac{A(t)}{V(0) + (r_i - r_o)t} = \frac{A(t)}{500 + (5 - 10)t}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 5.2 - 10 \cdot \frac{A}{500 - 5t}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{2}{100 - t} A = 10, \quad A(0) = 0$$

This holds for $0 \leq t < 100$

at $t = 100$ minutes, the tank
is empty.

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 capacity¹ M of the environment and the current population. Determine the differential equation satisfied by P .

Current Population is P

Difference between M and P is $M - P$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} \propto P(M - P), \text{ i.e. } \frac{dP}{dt} = kP(M - P)$$

for some constant k .

¹The 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 equation² and show that for any $P(0) \neq 0$, $P \rightarrow M$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

call $P(0) = P_0$

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

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

²The partial fraction decomposition

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

is useful.

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

$$\ln|p| - \ln|m-p| = kMt + C$$

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

$$e^{\ln \left| \frac{p}{m-p} \right|} = e^{kMt + C} = e^C e^{kMt}$$

$$\text{Let } A = e^C \text{ or } A = -e^C$$

$$\frac{P}{M-P} = A e^{kMt}$$

Use $P(0) = P_0$: $\frac{P_0}{M-P_0} = A e^0 = A$

$$s_0 \quad A = \frac{P_0}{M-P_0}$$

From $\frac{P}{M-P} = A e^{kMt}$, mult. by $M-P$

$$P = A e^{kMt} (M-P) = A M e^{kMt} - A e^{kMt} P$$

$$P + Ae^{kMt} P = AMe^{kMt}$$

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

$$P(t) = \frac{AMe^{kMt}}{1 + Ae^{kMt}}$$

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

$$P(t) = \frac{\frac{P_0}{M-P_0} M e^{kMt}}{1 + \frac{P_0}{M-P_0} e^{kMt}} \cdot \left(\frac{M-P_0}{M-P_0} \right)$$

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

let's take $t \rightarrow \infty$

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

use l'Hospital's rule

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_0 M e^{knt} \cdot kn}{P_0 e^{knt} \cdot kn}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} M = M$$

Section 6: Linear Equations Theory and Terminology

Recall that an n^{th} order linear IVP consists of an equation

$$a_n(x) \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

to solve subject to conditions

$$y(x_0) = y_0, \quad y'(x_0) = y_1, \quad \dots, \quad y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = y_{n-1}.$$

The problem is called **homogeneous** if $g(x) \equiv 0$. Otherwise it is called **nonhomogeneous**.

Theorem: Existence & Uniqueness

Theorem: If a_0, \dots, a_n and g are continuous on an interval I , $a_n(x) \neq 0$ for each x in I , and x_0 is any point in I , then for any choice of constants y_0, \dots, y_{n-1} , the IVP has a unique solution $y(x)$ on I .

Put differently, we're guaranteed to have a solution exist, and it is the only one there is!

Example

Use only a little clever intuition to solve the IVP

$$y'' + 3y' - 2y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$$

Homogeneous, $a_2(x) = 1$, $a_1(x) = 3$, $a_0(x) = -2$
 $g(x) = 0$
all continuous and $a_2(x) \neq 0$

Note that the constant function $y(x) = 0$
solves the IVP. By our theorem, this
is the only solution to the IVP.

A Second Order Linear Boundary Value Problem

consists of a problem

$$a_2(x) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x), \quad a < x < b$$

to solve subject to a pair of conditions³

$$y(a) = y_0, \quad y(b) = y_1.$$

However similar this is in appearance, the existence and uniqueness result **does not hold** for this BVP!

³Other conditions on y and/or y' can be imposed. The key characteristic is that conditions are imposed at both end points $x = a$ and $x = b$.