

Section 5: First Order Equations Models and Applications

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 .

The rate of change of the population is $\frac{dP}{dt}$. We're told it is jointly proportional to

P and $M - P$ (difference between carrying capacity M and P).

Hence

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

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 $t \rightarrow \infty$.

$$\text{let } P(0) = P_0$$

Egn is separable

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

²The partial fraction decomposition

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

is useful.

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

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

$$\ln|P| - \ln|M-P| = kMt + C$$

$$\ln \left| \frac{P}{M-P} \right| = kMt + C \quad \text{exponentiate}$$

$$\left| \frac{P}{M-P} \right| = e^{kMt+C} = e^C e^{kMt}$$

Letting $A = e^C$ or $-e^C$ or 0.

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

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

$$A = \frac{P_0}{M-P_0} \quad \text{we'll come back to this.}$$

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

$$P + A P e^{kMt} = A M e^{kMt}$$

$$(1 + A e^{kMt}) P = A M e^{kMt}$$

$$P = \frac{A M e^{knt}}{1 + A e^{knt}}$$

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

$$P = \frac{\frac{P_0}{M - P_0} M e^{knt}}{1 + \frac{P_0}{M - P_0} e^{knt}} \quad \left(\frac{M - P_0}{M - P_0} \right) \text{ clear fractions}$$

Finally

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

The solution
to the
IVP.

Looking at the long time population

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

apply
l'Hopital's
rule

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

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

So $P(t) \rightarrow M$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for any $P_0 \neq 0$.

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!

Homogeneous Equations

We'll consider the equation

$$a_n(x) \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = 0$$

and assume that each a_i is continuous and a_n is never zero on the interval of interest.

Theorem: If y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k are all solutions of this homogeneous equation on an interval I , then the *linear combination*

$$y(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_k y_k(x)$$

is also a solution on I for any choice of constants c_1, \dots, c_k .

This is called the **principle of superposition**.

Corollaries

- (i) If y_1 solves the homogeneous equation, the any constant multiple $y = cy_1$ is also a solution.
- (ii) The solution $y = 0$ (called the trivial solution) is always a solution to a homogeneous equation.

Big Questions:

- ▶ Does an equation have any **nontrivial** solution(s), and
- ▶ since y_1 and cy_1 aren't truly *different* solutions, what criteria will be used to call solutions distinct?

Linear Dependence

Definition: A set of functions $f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots, f_n(x)$ are said to be **linearly dependent** on an interval I if there exists a set of constants c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n with at least one of them being nonzero such that

$$c_1 f_1(x) + c_2 f_2(x) + \dots + c_n f_n(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } I.$$

A set of functions that is not linearly dependent on I is said to be **linearly independent** on I .

Example: A linearly Dependent Set

The functions $f_1(x) = \sin^2 x$, $f_2(x) = \cos^2 x$, and $f_3(x) = 1$ are linearly dependent on $I = (-\infty, \infty)$.

We want to show that there exists numbers c_1, c_2, c_3 not all zero such that

$$c_1 f_1(x) + c_2 f_2(x) + c_3 f_3(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all real } x$$

Recall $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$

Taking $c_1 = c_2 = 1$ and $c_3 = -1$ (not all zero)

$$1f_1(x) + 1f_2(x) - 1f_3(x) = \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x - 1 = 0$$

Example: A linearly Independent Set

The functions $f_1(x) = \sin x$ and $f_2(x) = \cos x$ are linearly independent on $I = (-\infty, \infty)$.

We need to show that $c_1 f_1(x) + c_2 f_2(x) = 0$ for all real x only if $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$.

Suppose $c_1 \sin x + c_2 \cos x = 0$ for all real x .

It must be true when $x=0$.

$$c_1 \sin 0 + c_2 \cos 0 = 0$$

$$c_1 \cdot 0 + c_2 \cdot 1 = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$$

Since $C_2=0$, the equation is

$$C_1 \sin x = 0 \quad \text{for all real } x.$$

This holds when $x = \pi/2$, so

$$C_1 \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = 0$$

$$C_1 \cdot 1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C_1 = 0$$

Both C_1 and C_2 must be zero.

Determine if the set is Linearly Dependent or Independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$

$$f_1(x) = x^2, \quad f_2(x) = 4x, \quad f_3(x) = x - x^2$$

Consider $c_1 f_1(x) + c_2 f_2(x) + c_3 f_3(x) = 0$ for all x

$$c_1 x^2 + c_2 (4x) + c_3 (x - x^2) = 0$$

Let's collect like terms

$$(c_1 - c_3)x^2 + (4c_2 + c_3)x = 0$$

We can make these coefficients zero by

Taking $c_1 = c_3$ and $c_2 = -\frac{1}{4}c_3$

A nonzero set of c 's is $c_1 = 4, c_2 = -1, c_3 = 4$

$$4f_1(x) - f_2(x) + 4f_3(x) =$$

$$4x^2 - 4x + 4(x - x^2) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x.$$

The set is linearly dependent,