

Chapter 8b:

Revision on Variables Separable,
First Order Linear,
and
Second Order Linear Constant
Coefficient ODES

Variables Separable ODEs

Solve the first order variables separable ODE

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2 + x}{y^2 + 1}.$$

To separate variables, we must bring all the y -stuff to the left along with the dy which is already there.

We must also multiply by dx so it is on the right with the dx -stuff.

$$(y^2 + 1) dy = (x^2 + x) dx.$$

Now insert integral signs:

$$\int (y^2 + 1) dy = \int (x^2 + x) dx.$$

Now do the integrals (each wrt its own variable):

$$\frac{y^3}{3} + y = \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^2}{2} + C.$$

This is the general solution, as required.

The Logistic Equation

The logistic differential equation for population growth is

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = rN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K} \right).$$

The solution with initial condition $N(0) = N_0$ is

$$N(t) = \frac{KN_0}{N_0 + (K - N_0)e^{-rt}}.$$

(a) For what populations N is the population (i) increasing? (ii) decreasing?

(b) Explain why $N = K$ is a stable equilibrium and interpret the constant K in terms of the model.

(c) By differentiating $\frac{dN}{dt}$ and using the Chain Rule, show that

$$\frac{d^2N}{dt^2} = r^2N \left(1 - \frac{N}{K}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2N}{K}\right).$$

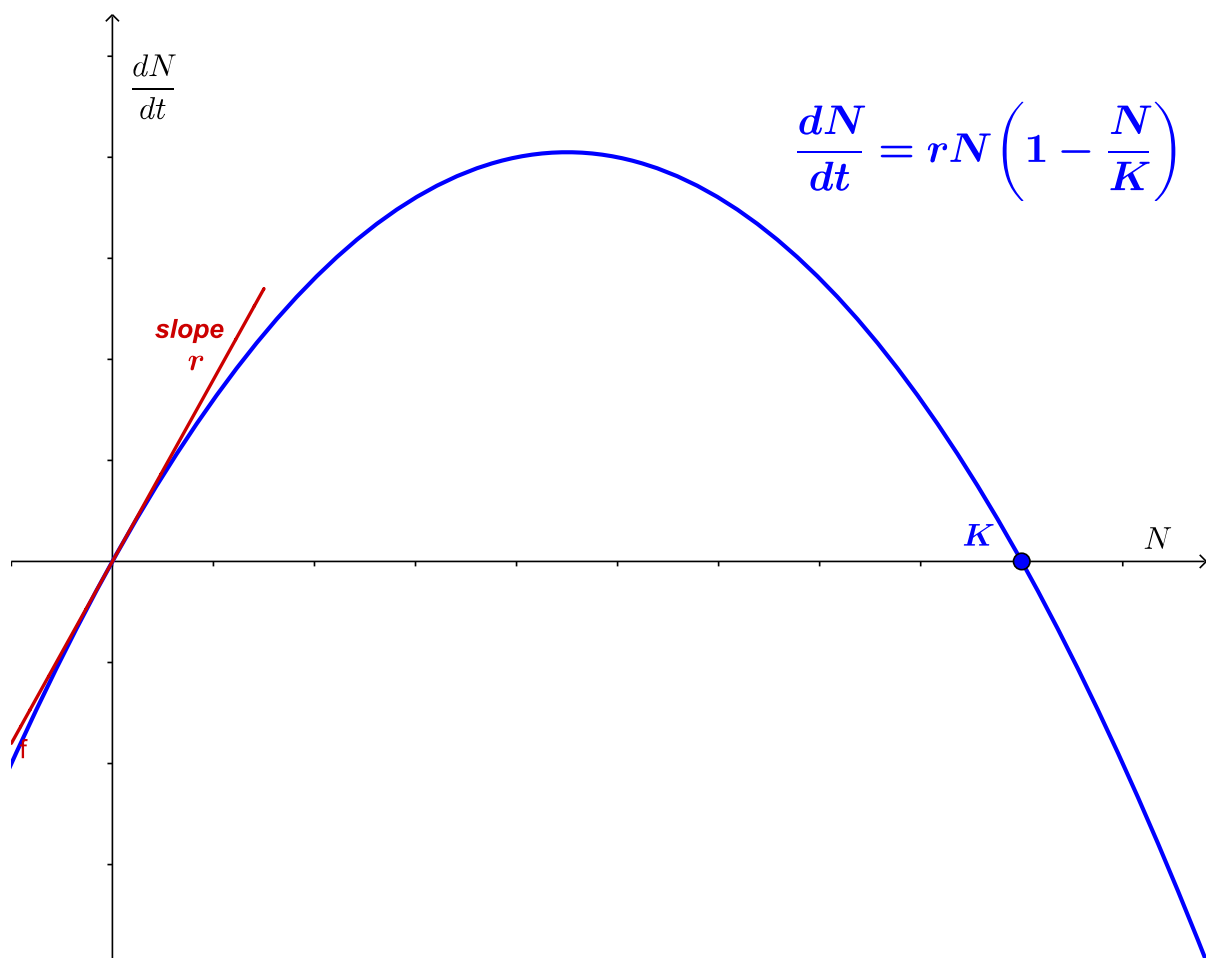
(d) Use this to show that there is a point of inflection when $N = \frac{K}{2}$ and that this occurs at time $\tau = \frac{1}{r} \ln \left(\frac{K - N_0}{N_0} \right)$.

(a) N is increasing when $\frac{dN}{dt} > 0$.

that is $N(K - N) > 0$, that is $0 < N < K$.

N is decreasing when $\frac{dN}{dt} < 0$,

that is $N(K - N) < 0$, that is $N > K$.



(b) At $N = K$, $\frac{dN}{dt} = 0$, so the population remains constant.

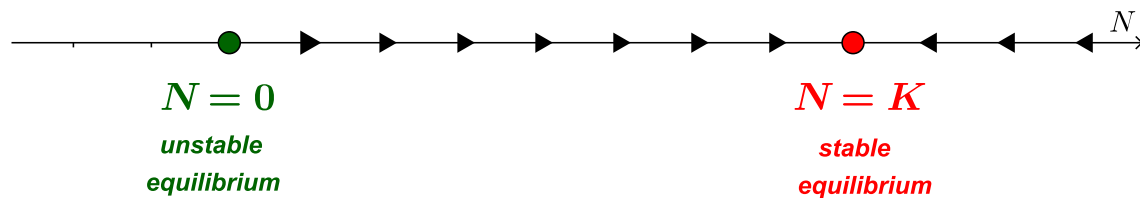
If N is below K , it is increasing, so moves towards K .

If N is above K , it is decreasing, so moves towards K .

So points near $N = K$ moves towards $N = K$, that is the equilibrium is stable.

$N = K$ is called the *carrying capacity* of the population.

It is also the long-term limit $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} N(t)$.



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(c)} \quad \frac{d^2N}{dt^2} &= \frac{d}{dt} \frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(rN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K} \right) \right) \\
 &= r \frac{d}{dN} \left(N - \frac{N^2}{K} \right) \frac{dN}{dt} = r \left(1 - 2\frac{N}{K} \right) \left(rN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K} \right) \right) \\
 &= r^2 N \left(1 - \frac{N}{K} \right) \left(1 - \frac{2N}{K} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

(d) When $N = \frac{K}{2}$, $\frac{d^2N}{dt^2} = 0$, and $\frac{dN}{dt} \neq 0$, so there is a point of inflection.

Suppose $N(\tau) = \frac{K}{2}$.

Then $\frac{K}{2} = \frac{KN_0}{N_0 + (K - N_0)e^{-r\tau}}$. We solve this for τ .

Divide both sides by K and multiply through by the denominator on the right to get:

$$\frac{1}{2}(N_0 + (K - N_0)e^{-r\tau}) = N_0.$$

Multiply by 2 and rearrange to get $(K - N_0)e^{-r\tau} = N_0$.

$$\text{So } e^{-r\tau} = \frac{N_0}{K - N_0},$$

and hence (taking logs) $-r\tau = \ln\left(\frac{N_0}{K - N_0}\right)$.

$$\text{So } \tau = \frac{1}{-r} \ln\left(\frac{N_0}{K - N_0}\right) = \frac{1}{r} \ln\left(\frac{K - N_0}{N_0}\right).$$

(Aside: in the last step we used $\ln\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\ln x$.)

First Order Linear ODEs

A falling object of mass m has velocity v at time t . It satisfies the ODE $m\frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv$, where g and k are constants.

(a) Show that the solution of this ODE with initial condition $v(0) = v_0$ is $v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} + \left(v_0 - \frac{mg}{k}\right)e^{-\frac{k}{m}t}$.

(b) Find the terminal velocity, that is $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t)$.

(c) Take $m = 1$, $k = 0.1$ and $g = 10$. Write out an expression for $v(t)$ at all times t . Find the terminal velocity and find its speed after ten seconds.

(d) How long does it take for the speed to reach 90m/s?

(a) First we show it satisfies the differential equation:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dv}{dt} &= 0 + \left(v_0 - \frac{mg}{k}\right) \left(-\frac{k}{m}\right) e^{-\frac{k}{m}t} = \left(-\frac{k}{m}\right) \left(v - \frac{mg}{k}\right) \\ &= -\frac{k}{m}v + g.\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } m \frac{dv}{dt} = -kv + mg. \quad \checkmark$$

Next we check the initial condition:

$$v(0) = \frac{mg}{k} + \left(v_0 - \frac{mg}{k}\right) e^0 = \frac{mg}{k} + v_0 - \frac{mg}{k} = v_0. \quad \checkmark$$

$$(b) \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} + 0, \text{ since the exponential goes to zero.}$$

(c) Putting in the numbers we get:

$$v(t) = \frac{10}{0.1} + \left(0 - \frac{10}{0.1}\right) e^{-\frac{0.1}{1}t} = 100(1 - e^{-0.1t}).$$

The terminal velocity is 100.

$$\text{When } t = 10, \text{ we get } v(10) = 100(1 - e^{-1}) = 63.2.$$

$$(d) \text{ When } v = 90, \text{ we get } 90 = 100 - 100e^{-0.1t}.$$

$$\text{So } 100e^{-0.1t} = 10, \text{ that is, } e^{-0.1t} = 0.1.$$

$$\text{Taking logs: } -0.1t = \ln 0.1 = -2.3.$$

$$\text{So } t = 23 \text{ seconds.}$$

Simple Harmonic Motion

Solve the simple harmonic oscillator equation

$$y'' + 25y = 0, \text{ with initial conditions } y(0) = 3 \text{ and } y'(0) = -5.$$

Here $\omega^2 = 25$, so $\omega = 5$.

General solution: $y = C_1 \cos(5t) + C_2 \sin(5t)$.

Then $y' = -5C_1 \sin(5t) + 5C_2 \cos(5t)$.

Initial condition $y(0) = 3$ gives $3 = C_1$.

Initial condition $y'(0) = -5$ gives $-5 = 5C_2$, so $C_2 = -1$.

Solution: $y = 3 \cos(5t) - \sin(5t)$.

Second-order Linear Homogeneous ODE

Solve the constant coefficient, second-order, linear, homogeneous ODE $y'' + 8y' + 15y = 0$, subject to initial conditions $y(0) = 4$ and $y'(0) = -8$.

Auxiliary equation is $m^2 + 8m + 15 = 0$.

This factors into $(m + 3)(m + 5) = 0$.

This has solutions $m = -3$ and $m = -5$.

We know each of these gives an “ e^{mt} ” solution.

So the general solution is $y = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{-5t}$.

Differentiating this we get $y' = -3C_1 e^{-3t} - 5C_2 e^{-5t}$.

Applying initial condition $y(0) = 4$ gives $4 = C_1 + C_2$.

Applying initial condition $y'(0) = -8$ gives

$$-8 = -3C_1 - 5C_2.$$

Adding three times the first equation to the second, we get $12 - 8 = -2C_2$, so $C_2 = -2$.

The first equation then gives $C_1 = 6$.

So the solution is $y = 6e^{-3t} - 2e^{-5t}$.

Second-order Linear Homogeneous ODE

Solve the constant coefficient, second-order, linear, homogeneous ODE $y'' + 14y' + 49y = 0$, subject to initial conditions $y(0) = 1$ and $y'(0) = -5$.

Auxiliary equation is $m^2 + 14m + 49 = 0$.

This factors into $(m + 7)(m + 7) = 0$.

It has a double root $m = -7$.

So the general solution is $y = C_1 e^{-7t} + C_2 t e^{-7t}$.

Differentiating (using the Product Rule) gives

$$y' = -7C_1 e^{-7t} + C_2 (e^{-7t} - 7t e^{-7t}).$$

Applying initial condition $y(0) = 1$ gives $1 = C_1$.

Applying initial condition $y'(0) = -5$ gives

$$-5 = -7C_1 + C_2 = -7 + C_2.$$

So $C_2 = 2$.

So the solution is $y = e^{-7t} + 2te^{-7t}$.

Second Order ODE with Forcing

The equation of motion of a damped mass spring system

is $m \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + \mu \frac{dy}{dt} + ky = f(t)$.

Consider a mass with $m = 1$ and Hooke constant $k = 10$ and damping constant $\mu = 2$.

The external force is $f(t) = 10t - 8$.

If the initial displacement is $y = 1$ and the mass is released from rest at time 0, find the displacement at all times $t \geq 0$.

Put in the given numbers to get the ODE

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dt} + 10y = 10t - 8,$$

with initial conditions $y(0) = 1$ and $y'(0) = 0$

(since the initial velocity is zero).

We write the full solution as $y = y_h + y_p$.

The homogeneous equation is $y_h'' + 2y_h' + 10y_h = 0$.

This has auxiliary equation $m^2 + 2m + 10 = 0$.

Solving this equation, we find it has complex roots

$$m = -1 \pm 3i.$$

The -1 gives e^{-t} and the $\pm 3i$ gives $e^{\pm 3it}$, which gives $\cos(3t)$ and $\sin(3t)$.

So the homogeneous solution is

$$y_h = C_1 e^{-t} \cos(3t) + C_2 e^{-t} \sin(3t).$$

We now look for a particular solution $y_p = \alpha t + \beta$.

$$\text{Then } 0 + 2\alpha + 10(\alpha t + \beta) = 10t - 8.$$

$$\text{That is } 10\alpha t + 2\alpha + 10\beta = 10t - 8.$$

$$\text{So } 10\alpha = 10 \text{ and } 2\alpha + 10\beta = -8.$$

$$\text{Solving these gives } \alpha = 1 \text{ and } \beta = -1.$$

$$\text{So the particular solution is } y_p = t - 1.$$

The general solution of the ODE is then

$$y = C_1 e^{-t} \cos(3t) + C_2 e^{-t} \sin(3t) + t - 1.$$

To apply the initial conditions, we also need the derivative.

Differentiating, using the Product Rule, gives

$$y' = -C_1 e^{-t} \cos(3t) - 3C_1 e^{-t} \sin(3t) \\ - C_2 e^{-t} \sin(3t) + 3C_2 e^{-t} \cos(3t) + 1.$$

Applying the initial condition $y(0) = 1$ gives $1 = C_1 - 1$.

So $C_1 = 2$.

Applying the initial condition $y'(0) = 0$ gives

$$0 = -C_1 + 3C_2 + 1.$$

So $3C_2 = C_1 - 1 = 1$. That is $C_2 = \frac{1}{3}$.

So the solution is $y = 2e^{-t} \cos(3t) + \frac{1}{3}e^{-t} \sin(3t) + t - 1$.