

# Calculating Biological Quantities

CSCI 2897

Prof. Daniel Larremore

2021, Lecture 9

[daniel.larremore@colorado.edu](mailto:daniel.larremore@colorado.edu)

[@danlarremore](https://twitter.com/danlarremore)

# Last time on CSCI 2987: Consumer-Resource Models

$$\frac{dn_1}{dt} = f(n_1) - g(n_1, n_2)$$

$$\frac{dn_2}{dt} = \epsilon g(n_1, n_2) - h(n_2)$$

$f(n_1)$  : rate of change of the resource via means other than consumption ( $n_2 = 0$ ).

$g(n_1, n_2)$  : rate of consumption of the resource by the consumer.

$\epsilon$  : the conversion factor by which resource units  $\rightarrow$  consumer units.

$h(n_2)$  : rate at which the number of consumers changes without resources ( $n_1 = 0$ ).

**TABLE 3.3**

Consumer-resource models. Examples of functions that can be used in the consumer-resource model (3.16), where  $n_1$  refers to the level of resources (e.g., number of prey) and  $n_2$  refers to the level of consumers (e.g., number of predators).

Function	Description
$f(n_1) = \theta$	Inflow of resources at a constant rate
$f(n_1) = -\psi$	Outflow of resources at a constant rate
$f(n_1) = r n_1$	Constant per capita growth of resource species
$f(n_1) = r n_1 \left(1 - \frac{n_1}{K}\right)$	Per capita growth of resource species declines linearly with resource level (logistic)
$f(n_1) = r n_1 e^{-\alpha n_1}$	Per capita growth of resource species declines exponentially with resource level
$g(n_1, n_2) = a c n_1 n_2$	Linear (type I) rate of resource consumption
$g(n_1, n_2) = \frac{a c n_1}{b + n_1} n_2$	Saturating (type II) rate of resource consumption
$g(n_1, n_2) = \frac{a c n_1^k}{b + n_1^k} n_2$	Generalized (type III) rate of resource consumption
$h(n_2) = \delta n_2$	Constant per capita death rate of consumer
$h(n_2) = (\delta n_2) n_2$	Per capita death rate of consumer increases linearly with consumer population size

# Lecture 9 Plan

## **1. Let's reverse engineer an equation:**

what does the equation tell us about the biology?

## **2. New math: the “integrating factor” method.**

# Working Backward: Equations to Interpretation

By now, we're pretty good at taking a system and working forward, from behavior into a diagram and then into equations.

Sometimes, it's useful to be able to work in reverse, by taking an equation, and then interpreting the equation in terms of biology.

For example, here's the logistic equation with constant hunting or harvesting.

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - \theta$$

# Working Backward: Equations to Interpretation

However, all 3 of these equations could be described as “logistic growth with constant hunting or harvesting.” So what’s the difference in *meaning*?

$$1. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - \theta$$

$$2. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - Hn(t)$$

$$3. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - H(n(t) - P)$$

• What is the story being told by each of these?

• What can we say about the “mechanism” of constant harvesting implied by each equation?

# Working Backward: Equations to Interpretation

However, all 3 of these equations could be described as “logistic growth with constant hunting or harvesting.” So what’s the difference in *meaning*?

$$1. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - \theta$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -\theta$$

- could think of  $-\theta$  as emigration out of the area, instead of hunting.

- The rate of consumption isn't changing. (because  $\theta$  is a constant.)
- Rate of consumption is independent of population size.
- ex: each year, if CO gives away the same # of elk tags (regardless of elk pop'n)

# Working Backward: Equations to Interpretation

Nota Bene  
"note well" NB:

However, all 3 of these equations could be described as "logistic growth with constant hunting or harvesting." So what's the difference in *meaning*?

$$2. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - Hn(t)$$

- removing algae from a pond.



- more algae when  $n(t)$  large. less when  $n(t)$  is small.

- Hunting occurs at a constant per-capita rate.

NB: we can also think about individual experience in an equation  
Here: each indiv. experience same risk of being hunted.  
Last slide: risk ↑ as pop'n ↓

# Working Backward: Equations to Interpretation

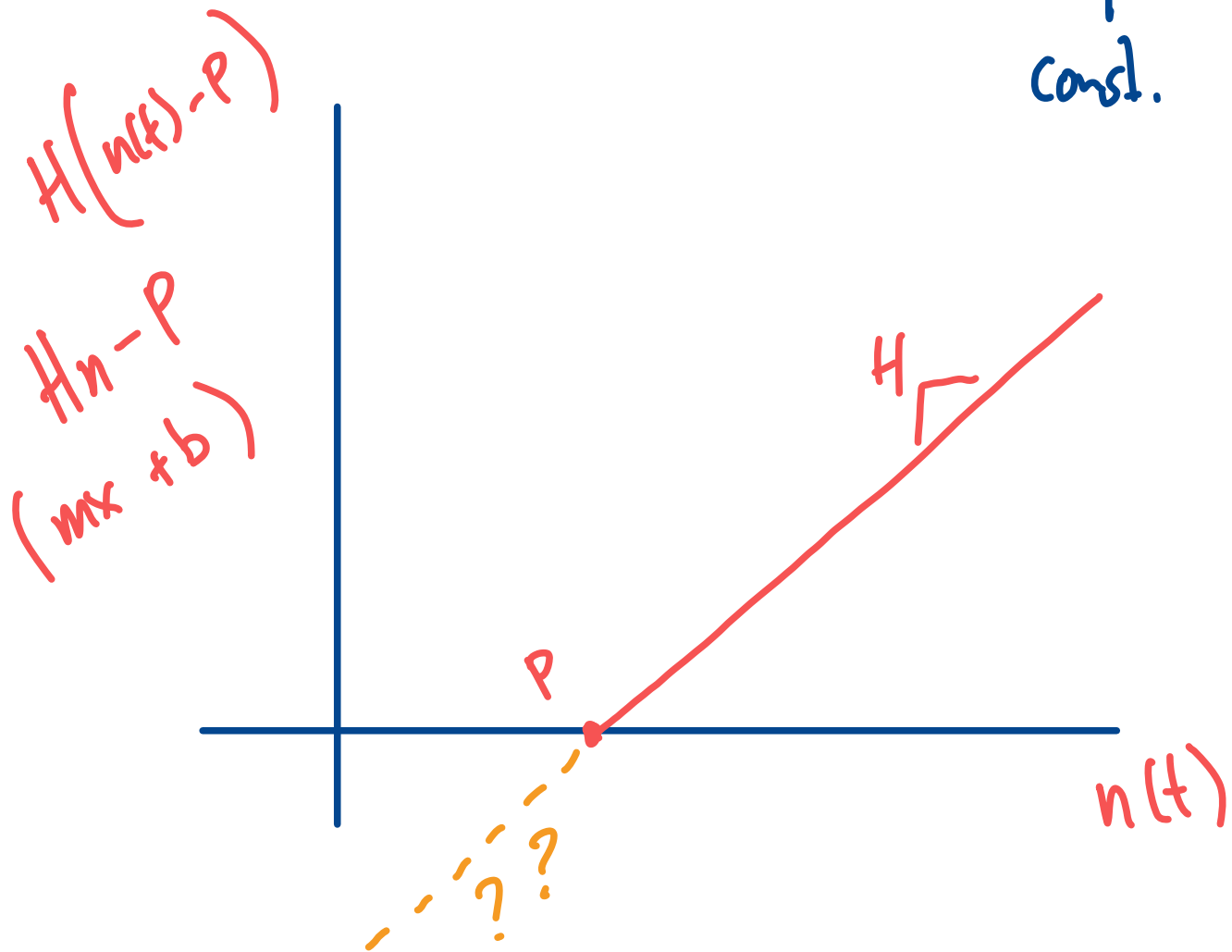
However, all 3 of these equations could be described as “logistic growth with constant hunting or harvesting.” So what’s the difference in *meaning*?

$$3. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - \overbrace{H(n(t) - P)}^{\text{becomes } = 0 \text{ when } n(t) = P \Rightarrow \text{Hunting ceases at pop'n size } P}$$

↑  
const.  
↑  
pop'n  
↑  
const P

• When  $n(t) < P \rightarrow$  restocking of population. “Reverse hunting.”

• When  $n(t) > P \rightarrow$  hunting.



$$\frac{dn}{dt} = [\text{logistic}] - Hn(t) + HP$$

↑  
const per-capita  
harvesting

↑  
constant total rate  
of restocking.



# Working Backward: Equations to Interpretation

However, all 3 of these equations could be described as “logistic growth with constant hunting or harvesting.” So what’s the difference in *meaning*?

$$3. \frac{dn}{dt} = rn(t) \left( 1 - \frac{n(t)}{K} \right) - H(n(t) - P)$$

Equilibrium?

10 E.C. HW 2.

tell me about equilibria of this equation.

① math

② interpretation in words. Algae in the pond.

# Let's level up our ODE game

**Warmup:**

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 0$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3y$$

$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int 3 dx$$

$$\ln y = 3x + c$$

$$y = e^{3x+c}$$

$$y = e^c e^{3x}$$

$$y = k e^{3x}$$

$$e^{a+b} = e^a e^b$$

What if we make it *just* a little different?

To make the **green terms equal**, ... set them equal!! (solve)

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 1$$

↑  
deriv  
of y

↑  
just y

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\mu(x) y(x)] = \mu \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{d\mu}{dx} y$$

multiply  
original  
equation  
by  $\mu$

$$\mu \frac{dy}{dx} - 3\mu y = \mu$$

sub back in.

$$\frac{d\mu}{dx} = -3\mu$$

$$\frac{d\mu}{\mu} = -3 dx$$

$$\ln \mu = -3x + c$$

$$\mu = ke^{-3x}$$

After subbing in  $\mu$ ...

$$\cancel{k} e^{-3x} \frac{dy}{dx} - 3 \cancel{k} e^{-3x} y = 1 \cancel{k} e^{-3x}$$

$$e^{3x} \frac{dy}{dx} - 3e^{-3x} y = e^{-3x}$$

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} [e^{-3x} y] dx = \int e^{-3x} dx$$

$$e^{-3x} y = \frac{e^{-3x}}{-3} + c$$

$$y = \frac{1}{-3} + ce^{3x}$$

# Recap:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 1$$

- We observed that if there were a function called  $\mu(x)$ , then (product rule):

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\mu(x)y(x)] = \mu \frac{dy}{dx} + y \frac{d\mu}{dx}$$

- We compared this to our ODE: one  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  term and one  $y$  term!
- Then, we matched up terms to figure out what  $\mu(x)$  should be.
- This required us to solve another ODE (sep. of vars.) which we did.
- Then we integrated both sides and solved for  $y(x)$ .

Example:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + y = x, \text{ with } y(0) = 4$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\mu y) = \mu \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{d\mu}{dx} y$$

$$\mu \frac{dy}{dx} + \mu y = \mu x$$

$\Rightarrow \mu = \frac{d\mu}{dx}$  to get left hand sides to match.

↓ (sep. of vars)

$$\mu = e^x$$

Plus in  $\mu \dots$

$$e^x \frac{dy}{dx} + e^x y = x e^x$$

~~~~~ MAGIC ~~~~~

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} [e^x y] dx = \int x e^x dx$$

$$\cancel{e^{-x} e^x} y = \left[ \int x e^x dx \right] e^{-x}$$

$$y = e^{-x} \left[ \int x e^x dx \right]$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [e^x y] = e^x \frac{dy}{dx} + e^x y$$

Example (continued):  $\frac{dy}{dx} + y = x$ , with  $y(0) = 4$

side quest

$$\int x e^x dx$$

$$u = x$$
$$dv = e^x dx$$

$$\int u dv = uv - \int v du$$

ultravioletoodoo

what I have

where I'm going

want to be able to do this.

$$du = 1$$

$$v = \int dv = \int e^x dx = e^x$$

$$\int x e^x = x e^x - \int e^x \cdot 1 dx$$

$$= x e^x - e^x + c$$

sub in

$$y = e^{-x} \left( x e^x - e^x + c \right)$$

$$y = x - 1 + c e^{-x}$$

$$y = 4, x = 0$$

$$4 = 0 - 1 + c e^0$$

$$4 = -1 + c$$

$$5 = c$$

↓

$$y = x - 1 + 5e^{-x}$$