

In this case the equations are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= -\kappa xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= \kappa xy - ly \\ \frac{dz}{dt} &= ly \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (29)$$

and as before $x + y + z = N$.

Thus

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = l(N - x - z),$$

and $\frac{dx}{dz} = -\frac{\kappa}{l}x$, whence $\log \frac{x_0}{x} = \frac{\kappa}{l}z$, since we assume that z_0 is zero.

Thus

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = l\left(N - x_0 e^{-\frac{\kappa}{l}z} - z\right).$$

Since it is impossible from this equation to obtain z as an explicit function of t , we may expand the exponential term in powers of $\frac{\kappa}{l}z$, and we shall assume that $\frac{\kappa}{l}z$ is small compared with unity.