

Population growth

Continuous system- Ordinary
differential equations

Population growth: Differential equations

- $dN/dt = bN - mN$ (density dependent)

b be the birth rate per capita;

m (for mortality) the death rate per capita.

- This equation is usually written as

$$dN/dt = rN \quad (r = b - m)$$

$$dN/N = r \, dt$$

- Taking the integrals both sides with limits $t = 0$ to $t = T$ gives

$$\ln(N(T)) - \ln(N(0)) = rT$$

So

$$N(T) = N(0)e^{rt}.$$

if $r = 0$, the population size is stationary;

if $r > 0$, the population grows exponentially without bound.

if $r < 0$, the population approaches 0.

Comparison with discrete time

- The discrete equation $N_{t+1} = R N_t$ has a solution
$$N_t = R^t N_0.$$
- For $R > 1$, the solution increases without bound
- for $R = 1$, the solution is a constant
- for $R < 1$, the solution approaches 0.

$$N(T) = N(0)e^{rt} \text{ (for continuous)}$$

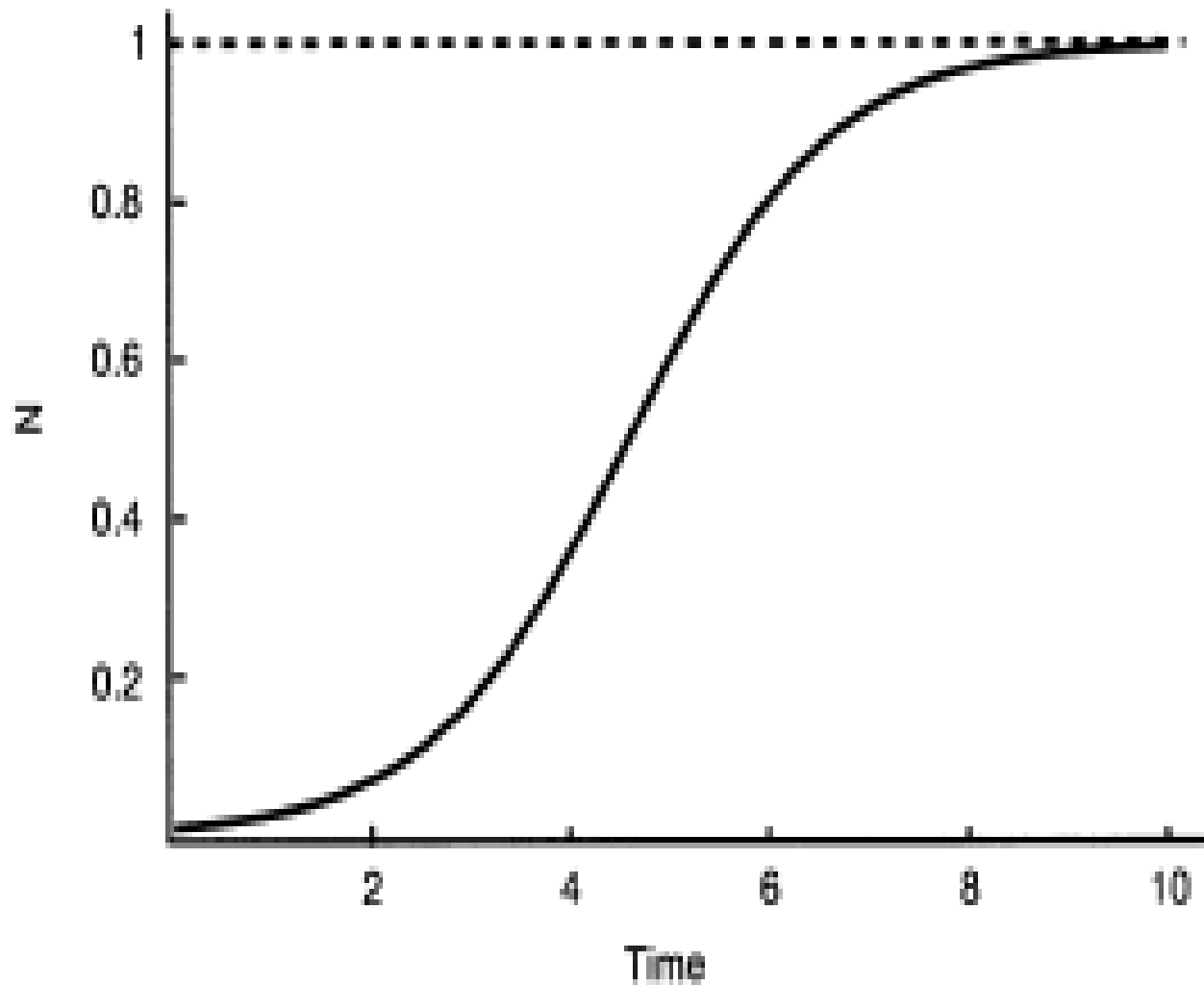
$$N_t = R^t N_0 \text{ (For discrete)}$$

- we see that R^t and $e^{rt} = (e^r)^t$ play **analogous roles**.
- Thus we conclude that
- $$R = e^r$$
- The Taylor series for e^r is $1 + r + r^2 + \dots$.
- And therefore $R \sim 1 + r$

Continuous Logistic model

- $dN/dt = N f(N)$
- $f(N)$ is the per capita growth rate.
- $f(N) = r(1 - N/K)$
- $dN/dt = r N (1 - N/K)$
- $dN/N(1 - N/K) = r dt$
- We then integrate both sides of the equation from $t = 0$ to $t = T$:
- $1/(N(1 - N/K))$ is written as
 $1/N + (1/K)/(1 - N/K)$ (Partial fraction)
(HW: 2nd method Solve this through Bernoulli's method)
So that finally we get after integrating the above equation on both sides;
- $N(T) = N(0)e^{rT} / (1 + N(0)(e^{rT} - 1)/K)$

Sigmoidal curve



Stability for continuous systems

Box 4.1. Qualitative analysis of a model with a single differential equation.

We consider a model of the form

$$dN/dt = F(N).$$

The first step in the analysis is to determine the equilibria. Do this by setting $dN/dt = 0$ to obtain an equation for \hat{N} :

$$0 = F(\hat{N}).$$

Then solve this equation for \hat{N} . Note that this may be impossible to do for some functions F .

The next step is to determine the stability of these equilibria by approximating F . We define the deviation from equilibrium, n , by letting $N = \hat{N} + n$ and compute

$$dn/dt \approx \lambda n,$$

where

$$\lambda = \left. \frac{dF}{dN} \right|_{N=\hat{N}}.$$

- The equilibrium is stable, and is approached if the system starts nearby, if λ for that equilibrium is negative.
- The equilibrium is unstable, and the system moves away from the equilibrium if the system starts nearby, if λ for that equilibrium is positive.

The rate of return to the equilibrium, or the rate at which the system moves away from the equilibrium, is determined by λ .

Equilibrium analysis

- Determine the values of the population density, N^* , which are equilibria. Set
- $dN/dt = 0 = rN^*(1-N^*/K)$
- *Two equilibrium points $N^* = 0$ and $N^* = K$.*
- *How to determine the stability of equilibria?*

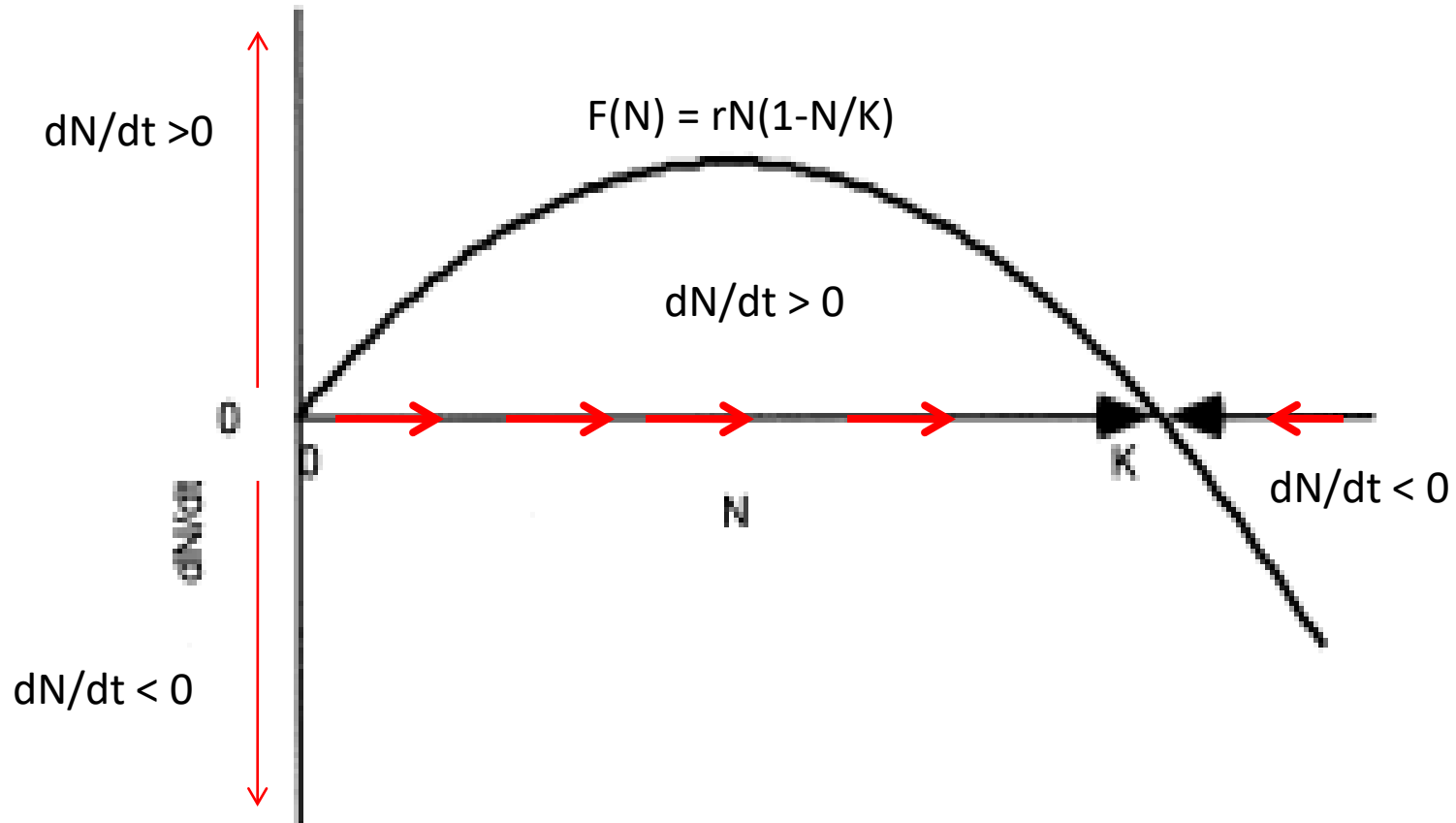
Stability Analysis

- We let n represent the deviation from the equilibrium, so $N = N^* + n$ (n is perturbation).
- So that $dN/dt = dN^*/dt = F(N) = rN(1-N/k)$
- We need to approximate $F(N)$ near the equilibrium, N . We use a Taylor series to see that
- $F(N^* + n) \sim F(N^*) + n \, dF/dN \text{ (at } N=N^*) + O(n^2) \dots$
(Taylor's Expansion)
- We note that since N^* is an equilibrium, $F(N^*) = 0$.
- We conclude that $dn/dt \sim n \, dF/dN \text{ (at } N=N^*)$.

At equilibrium of $N^* = 0$ and K

- In the logistic model with
- $F(N) = rN(1 - N/K) = rN - rN^2/K$
- $dF/dN = F'(N^*) = r - 2rN^*/K$ (at equilibrium $N=N^*$).
- Near the equilibrium $N^* = 0$,
- $dn/dt \sim n (r - 2rN/K) |_{N=0} = r$ (unstable $r > 0$)
- Near the equilibrium $N^* = K$,
- $dn/dt \sim n (r - 2rN/K) |_{N=K} = -r n$ (stable)
- The solution $n(t) = n_0 e^{-rt}$
- (stable since it approaches $n(0) = K$, as $t \rightarrow$ infinity)

Graphical method



$dn/dt > 0$, arrow moves towards right \rightarrow
 $dn/dt < 0$ arrow moves towards left \leftarrow