

# Week 6

MA123: Mathematical Reasoning & Modeling  
(Spring 2021)

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## Exponential Growth Models

# Exponential Growth Models

## Exponential Growth Model in Recursive Form:

### Example 1:

Suppose a school presently has 2500 students attending. Suppose the number of students is increasing by 5% each year. How many students will attend in 5 years.

Let  
 $P_0$  = Initial Population  
Population at time 0  
5% is called the  
growth rate

$P_n$  = Population in year  $n$   
 $P_1$  = Population in year 1  
 $P_2$  = Population in year 2  
 $\vdots$   
 $P_{n-1}$  = Population in year  $n-1$   
 $P_n$  = Population in year  $n$   
**Recursive Formula:**  
 $P_0 = 2500$ ;  $P_n = P_{n-1} + 0.05 P_{n-1}$

# Exponential Growth Models

Exponential Growth Model in Recursive Form:

**Recursive Formula:**

$$P_0 = 2500; P_n = P_{n-1} + 0.05 P_{n-1}$$

$$P_n = P_{n-1} + 0.05 P_{n-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_n &= P_{n-1} (1 + 0.05) \\ &= 1.05 P_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

1.05 is called the growth multiplier

$$P_0 = 2500$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= 1.05 P_0 = 1.05(2500) \\ &= 2625 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_2 &= 1.05 P_1 = 1.05(2625) \\ &= 2756.25 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_3 &= 1.05 P_2 = 1.05(2756.25) \\ &= 2894.062 \end{aligned}$$

$$P_4 = 1.05 P_3 = 1.05(2894.062)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_5 &= 1.05 P_4 = 3038.765 \\ &= 3190.703 \end{aligned}$$

# Exponential Growth Models

Exponential Growth Model in Recursive Form:

Note

Recursive Formula is

$$P_n = (1+r) P_{n-1}$$

Where  $r$  = Growth Rate  
 $1+r$  = Growth  
Multiplier  
or  
Common Ratio

Exponential Growth Model in Explicit Form:

From Example 1:

$$P_0 = 2500; P_n = 1.05 P_{n-1}$$

$$P_1 = 1.05 P_0$$

$$P_2 = 1.05 P_1 = (1.05)(1.05 P_0) \\ = (1.05)^2 P_0$$

$$P_3 = 1.05 P_2 = (1.05)(1.05)^2 P_0 \\ = (1.05)^3 P_0$$

Therefore:

$$P_n = (1.05)^n P_0$$
$$P_n = (1+r)^n P_0$$

# Exponential Growth Models

Exponential Growth Model in Explicit Form:

Note

Explicit Formula

$$P_n = (1+r)^n P_0$$

$r$  = Growth rate

$1+r$  = Growth multiplier  
or

Common Ratio

Exponential Growth Model in Explicit Form:

• From recursive formula:

$$1) \quad r = \frac{P_n - P_{n-1}}{P_{n-1}}$$

$$2) \quad 1+r = \frac{P_n}{P_{n-1}}$$

# Exponential Growth Models

## Exponential Growth Model in Explicit Form:

A population grows according to an exponential growth model. The initial population is  $P_0 = 15$ , and the growth rate is  $r = 0.25$ .

Then:

$P_1 =$      
 $P_2 =$

Use  $P_n = (1+r)P_{n-1}$

Find an explicit formula for  $P_n$ . Your formula should involve  $n$ .

$P_n =$      
 $P_n = (1+r)^n P_0$

Use your formula to find  $P_9$

$P_9 =$      
 $P_9 = (1+r)^9 P_0$

Give all answers accurate to at least one decimal place

Given the exponential growth function  $f(x) = 77(1.01)^x$

What is the initial value of the function?

What is the growth factor, or growth rate of the function (as a percent)?

## Exponential Growth Model in Explicit Form:

The rabbit population at the city park increases by 7% per year. If there are initially 222 rabbits in the city park.

a) Write a model for the population ( $y$ ) in terms of years ( $t$ ).  $y =$

b) Find the rabbit population in 20 years. (Round to the nearest whole rabbit)

$P_{20} = 222(1.07)^{20}$

x	1	2	3	4	5	6
y	1024	1457	2287	3289	4676	7062

Use regression to find an exponential equation that best fits the data above. The equation has form  $y = ab^x$  where:

a =

b =

[Click here to watch the video on exponential regression](#)