AP Calculus BC – Study Guide: Unit 6 – Differential Equations

Slope fields:

Sketch a slope field for
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2}xy$$

Slope fields:

plug various (x,y) into

 $\frac{dy}{dx}$ to get slopes at pts



Which of the following could be a specific solution to the Differential equation with the given slope field:



Solving separable differential equations:

Find the particular solution for $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2y$, y(2) = 1.

Euler's method:

f(x) is the solution to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2 y$, y(1) = 2. Use Euler's method with a step size of 0.1 to approximate f(1.3).

(h can be negative)

Solution curves follow the direction in slope field (E) [this is an exponential curve shape]



Solving separable differential equations:

Separate the variables : $\frac{1}{y}dy = 3x^2dx$ integrate both sides : $\int \frac{1}{y}dy = \int 3x^2dx$ (general, implicit solution) : $\ln |y| = x^3 + C$ plug in initial condition : $\ln(1) = (2)^3 + C$ solve for C : 0 = 8 + C, C = -8write the particular, implicit solution : $\ln |y| = x^3 - 8$ if needed, solve for y (explicit solution): $e^{\ln|y|} = e^{(x^3-8)}, \quad y = e^{(x^3-8)} = e^{-8}e^{x^3}$

Euler's method:

$$\frac{(x,y)}{(1,2)} \quad \frac{y_{n+1} = y_n + h\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)}{y = 2 + (0.1)\left((1)^2(2)\right) = 2.2}$$

$$(1.1,2.2) \quad y = 2.2 + (0.1)\left((1.1)^2(2.2)\right) = 2.4662$$

$$(1.2,2.4662) \quad y = 2.4662 + (0.1)\left((1.2)^2(2.4662)\right) = 2.8213$$

$$(1.3,2.8213) \quad f(1.3) \approx 2.8213$$

Differential Equation Models:

Write the differential equation and solution equations:

Unrestricted population growth:

Unrestricted population growth:

$$DE: \frac{dP}{dt} = kP \qquad solution: P = P_0 e^{kt}$$

Continuously compounded interest is same form:

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = kA \qquad A = Pe^{rt}$$

Radioactive Decay:

Radioactive Decay:

Logistic Model Growth:

Logistic Model Growth: growth limited by environment

 $DE: \frac{dQ}{dt} = kQ$ solution: $Q = Q_0 e^{kt}$

maximum population = carrying capacity, L

(halflife = time for quantity to reduce by half)

$$DE: \frac{dP}{dt} = kP\left(1 - \frac{P}{L}\right) \quad solution: P = \frac{L}{1 + Ce^{-kt}}$$

$$\left(population grows fastest when P = \frac{1}{2}L\right)$$

Unrestricted population growth example:

A rabbit population with an initial size of 500 grows at A rate proportional to its size. If there are 1200 rabbits At t = 10 days, when was the rabbit population 900?

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP, \ solution: \ P = P_0 e^{kt}$$

$$P = 500e^{kt}, \ use \ P(10) = 1200:$$

$$1200 = 500e^{k(10)}, \ e^{10k} = \frac{1200}{500}, \ 10k = \ln\left(\frac{1200}{500}\right)$$

$$k = 0.087547, \ so \ P = 500e^{0.087547t}$$

$$Now, \ solve \ for \ t \ when \ P = 900:$$

$$900 = 500e^{0.087547t}, \ e^{0.087547t} = \frac{900}{500},$$

$$0.087547t = \ln\left(\frac{900}{500}\right), \ t = 6.714 \ days$$

Logistic growth example:

The number of moose in a national park is modeled by the function M(t) that satisfies the logistical

differential equation
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{3}{5}M - \frac{3}{1000}M^2$$
 and $M(0) = 50$.
(a) What is $\lim_{t \to \infty} M(t)$?

(b) What is the population of moose when the number

of moose is growing most rapidly?

(c) At what time does max rate of growth occur?



(b) Fastest growth for logistic occurs when population is half the carrying capacity: When there are 100 moose.

(c) DE form:
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{3}{5}M\left(1 - \frac{M}{200}\right) = kP\left(1 - \frac{P}{L}\right)$$

solution form: $M = \frac{L}{1 + Ce^{-kt}} = \frac{200}{1 + Ce^{-\frac{3}{5}t}}$
using initial condition: $M(0) = 50$:
 $50 = \frac{200}{1 + Ce^{-\frac{3}{5}(0)}} = \frac{200}{1 + C}, \ 1 + C = \frac{200}{50}, \ C = 3$
final solution equation: $M = \frac{200}{1 + 3e^{-\frac{3}{5}t}}$
Now, solve for time when $M = 100$:
 $100 = \frac{200}{1 + 3e^{-\frac{3}{5}t}}, \ 1 + 3e^{-\frac{3}{5}t} = \frac{200}{100}, \ 3e^{-\frac{3}{5}t} = 1,$
 $-\frac{3}{5}t = \ln\left(\frac{1}{3}\right), \ t = 1.831$ years.