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# 9

## Differential Equations



The relationship between populations of predators and prey (sharks and food fish, ladybugs and aphids, wolves and rabbits) is explored using pairs of differential equations in the last section of this chapter.

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Perhaps the most important of all the applications of calculus is to differential equations. When physical scientists or social scientists use calculus, more often than not it is to analyze a differential equation that has arisen in the process of modeling some phenomenon that they are studying. Although it is often impossible to find an explicit formula for the solution of a differential equation, we will see that graphical and numerical approaches provide the needed information.

## 9.1 Modeling with Differential Equations

Now is a good time to read (or reread) the discussion of mathematical modeling on page 23.

In describing the process of modeling in Section 1.2, we talked about formulating a mathematical model of a real-world problem either through intuitive reasoning about the phenomenon or from a physical law based on evidence from experiments. The mathematical model often takes the form of a *differential equation*, that is, an equation that contains an unknown function and some of its derivatives. This is not surprising because in a real-world problem we often notice that changes occur and we want to predict future behavior on the basis of how current values change. Let's begin by examining several examples of how differential equations arise when we model physical phenomena.

### Models of Population Growth

One model for the growth of a population is based on the assumption that the population grows at a rate proportional to the size of the population. That is a reasonable assumption for a population of bacteria or animals under ideal conditions (unlimited environment, adequate nutrition, absence of predators, immunity from disease).

Let's identify and name the variables in this model:

$t$  = time (the independent variable)

$P$  = the number of individuals in the population (the dependent variable)

The rate of growth of the population is the derivative  $dP/dt$ . So our assumption that the rate of growth of the population is proportional to the population size is written as the equation

$$\boxed{1} \quad \frac{dP}{dt} = kP$$

where  $k$  is the proportionality constant. Equation 1 is our first model for population growth; it is a differential equation because it contains an unknown function  $P$  and its derivative  $dP/dt$ .

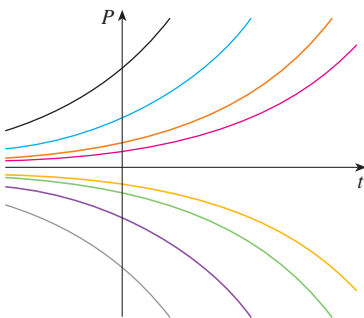
Having formulated a model, let's look at its consequences. If we rule out a population of 0, then  $P(t) > 0$  for all  $t$ . So, if  $k > 0$ , then Equation 1 shows that  $P'(t) > 0$  for all  $t$ . This means that the population is always increasing. In fact, as  $P(t)$  increases, Equation 1 shows that  $dP/dt$  becomes larger. In other words, the growth rate increases as the population increases.

Let's try to think of a solution of Equation 1. This equation asks us to find a function whose derivative is a constant multiple of itself. We know from Chapter 6 that exponential functions have that property. In fact, if we let  $P(t) = Ce^{kt}$ , then

$$P'(t) = C(ke^{kt}) = k(Ce^{kt}) = kP(t)$$

Thus any exponential function of the form  $P(t) = Ce^{kt}$  is a solution of Equation 1. In Section 9.4, we will see that there is no other solution.

Allowing  $C$  to vary through all the real numbers, we get the *family* of solutions  $P(t) = Ce^{kt}$  whose graphs are shown in Figure 1. But populations have only positive values and so we are interested only in the solutions with  $C > 0$ . And we are probably con-



**FIGURE 1**  
The family of solutions of  $dP/dt = kP$

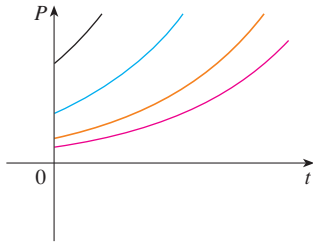


FIGURE 2

The family of solutions  $P(t) = Ce^{kt}$  with  $C > 0$  and  $t \geq 0$

cerned only with values of  $t$  greater than the initial time  $t = 0$ . Figure 2 shows the physically meaningful solutions. Putting  $t = 0$ , we get  $P(0) = Ce^{k(0)} = C$ , so the constant  $C$  turns out to be the initial population,  $P(0)$ .

Equation 1 is appropriate for modeling population growth under ideal conditions, but we have to recognize that a more realistic model must reflect the fact that a given environment has limited resources. Many populations start by increasing in an exponential manner, but the population levels off when it approaches its *carrying capacity*  $M$  (or decreases toward  $M$  if it ever exceeds  $M$ ). For a model to take into account both trends, we make two assumptions:

- $\frac{dP}{dt} \approx kP$  if  $P$  is small (Initially, the growth rate is proportional to  $P$ .)
- $\frac{dP}{dt} < 0$  if  $P > M$  ( $P$  decreases if it ever exceeds  $M$ .)

A simple expression that incorporates both assumptions is given by the equation

$$\boxed{2} \quad \frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right)$$

Notice that if  $P$  is small compared with  $M$ , then  $P/M$  is close to 0 and so  $dP/dt \approx kP$ . If  $P > M$ , then  $1 - P/M$  is negative and so  $dP/dt < 0$ .

Equation 2 is called the *logistic differential equation* and was proposed by the Dutch mathematical biologist Pierre-François Verhulst in the 1840s as a model for world population growth. We will develop techniques that enable us to find explicit solutions of the logistic equation in Section 9.4, but for now we can deduce qualitative characteristics of the solutions directly from Equation 2. We first observe that the constant functions  $P(t) = 0$  and  $P(t) = M$  are solutions because, in either case, one of the factors on the right side of Equation 2 is zero. (This certainly makes physical sense: If the population is ever either 0 or at the carrying capacity, it stays that way.) These two constant solutions are called *equilibrium solutions*.

If the initial population  $P(0)$  lies between 0 and  $M$ , then the right side of Equation 2 is positive, so  $dP/dt > 0$  and the population increases. But if the population exceeds the carrying capacity ( $P > M$ ), then  $1 - P/M$  is negative, so  $dP/dt < 0$  and the population decreases. Notice that, in either case, if the population approaches the carrying capacity ( $P \rightarrow M$ ), then  $dP/dt \rightarrow 0$ , which means the population levels off. So we expect that the solutions of the logistic differential equation have graphs that look something like the ones in Figure 3. Notice that the graphs move away from the equilibrium solution  $P = 0$  and move toward the equilibrium solution  $P = M$ .

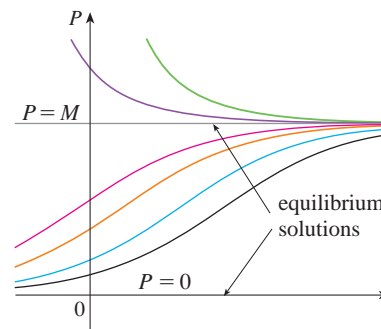


FIGURE 3

Solutions of the logistic equation



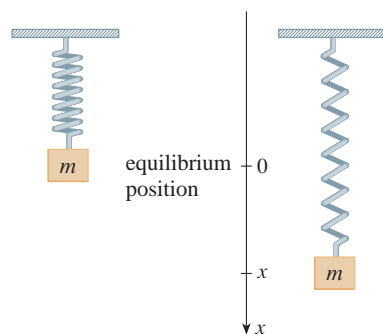


FIGURE 4

### A Model for the Motion of a Spring

Let's now look at an example of a model from the physical sciences. We consider the motion of an object with mass  $m$  at the end of a vertical spring (as in Figure 4). In Section 5.4 we discussed Hooke's Law, which says that if the spring is stretched (or compressed)  $x$  units from its natural length, then it exerts a force that is proportional to  $x$ :

$$\text{restoring force} = -kx$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant (called the *spring constant*). If we ignore any external resisting forces (due to air resistance or friction) then, by Newton's Second Law (force equals mass times acceleration), we have

$$\boxed{3} \quad m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx$$

This is an example of what is called a *second-order differential equation* because it involves second derivatives. Let's see what we can guess about the form of the solution directly from the equation. We can rewrite Equation 3 in the form

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{k}{m}x$$

which says that the second derivative of  $x$  is proportional to  $x$  but has the opposite sign. We know two functions with this property, the sine and cosine functions. In fact, it turns out that all solutions of Equation 3 can be written as combinations of certain sine and cosine functions (see Exercise 4). This is not surprising; we expect the spring to oscillate about its equilibrium position and so it is natural to think that trigonometric functions are involved.

### General Differential Equations

In general, a **differential equation** is an equation that contains an unknown function and one or more of its derivatives. The **order** of a differential equation is the order of the highest derivative that occurs in the equation. Thus Equations 1 and 2 are first-order equations and Equation 3 is a second-order equation. In all three of those equations the independent variable is called  $t$  and represents time, but in general the independent variable doesn't have to represent time. For example, when we consider the differential equation

$$\boxed{4} \quad y' = xy$$

it is understood that  $y$  is an unknown function of  $x$ .

A function  $f$  is called a **solution** of a differential equation if the equation is satisfied when  $y = f(x)$  and its derivatives are substituted into the equation. Thus  $f$  is a solution of Equation 4 if

$$f'(x) = xf(x)$$

for all values of  $x$  in some interval.

When we are asked to *solve* a differential equation we are expected to find all possible solutions of the equation. We have already solved some particularly simple differential equations, namely, those of the form

$$y' = f(x)$$

For instance, we know that the general solution of the differential equation

$$y' = x^3$$

is given by

$$y = \frac{x^4}{4} + C$$

where  $C$  is an arbitrary constant.

But, in general, solving a differential equation is not an easy matter. There is no systematic technique that enables us to solve all differential equations. In Section 9.2, however, we will see how to draw rough graphs of solutions even when we have no explicit formula. We will also learn how to find numerical approximations to solutions.

**V EXAMPLE 1** Show that every member of the family of functions

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

is a solution of the differential equation  $y' = \frac{1}{2}(y^2 - 1)$ .

**SOLUTION** We use the Quotient Rule to differentiate the expression for  $y$ :

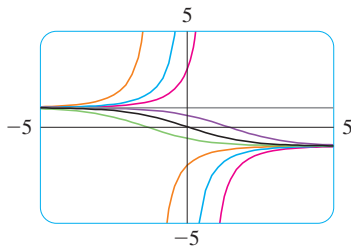
$$\begin{aligned} y' &= \frac{(1 - ce^t)(ce^t) - (1 + ce^t)(-ce^t)}{(1 - ce^t)^2} \\ &= \frac{ce^t - c^2e^{2t} + ce^t + c^2e^{2t}}{(1 - ce^t)^2} = \frac{2ce^t}{(1 - ce^t)^2} \end{aligned}$$

The right side of the differential equation becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}(y^2 - 1) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{1 + ce^t}{1 - ce^t} \right)^2 - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{(1 + ce^t)^2 - (1 - ce^t)^2}{(1 - ce^t)^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{4ce^t}{(1 - ce^t)^2} = \frac{2ce^t}{(1 - ce^t)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for every value of  $c$ , the given function is a solution of the differential equation.

Figure 5 shows graphs of seven members of the family in Example 1. The differential equation shows that if  $y \approx \pm 1$ , then  $y' \approx 0$ . That is borne out by the flatness of the graphs near  $y = 1$  and  $y = -1$ .



**FIGURE 5**

When applying differential equations, we are usually not as interested in finding a family of solutions (the *general solution*) as we are in finding a solution that satisfies some additional requirement. In many physical problems we need to find the particular solution that satisfies a condition of the form  $y(t_0) = y_0$ . This is called an **initial condition**, and the problem of finding a solution of the differential equation that satisfies the initial condition is called an **initial-value problem**.

Geometrically, when we impose an initial condition, we look at the family of solution curves and pick the one that passes through the point  $(t_0, y_0)$ . Physically, this corresponds to measuring the state of a system at time  $t_0$  and using the solution of the initial-value problem to predict the future behavior of the system.

**V EXAMPLE 2** Find a solution of the differential equation  $y' = \frac{1}{2}(y^2 - 1)$  that satisfies the initial condition  $y(0) = 2$ .

**SOLUTION** Substituting the values  $t = 0$  and  $y = 2$  into the formula

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

from Example 1, we get

$$2 = \frac{1 + ce^0}{1 - ce^0} = \frac{1 + c}{1 - c}$$

Solving this equation for  $c$ , we get  $2 - 2c = 1 + c$ , which gives  $c = \frac{1}{3}$ . So the solution of the initial-value problem is

$$y = \frac{1 + \frac{1}{3}e^t}{1 - \frac{1}{3}e^t} = \frac{3 + e^t}{3 - e^t}$$

## 9.1 Exercises

- Show that  $y = \frac{2}{3}e^x + e^{-2x}$  is a solution of the differential equation  $y' + 2y = 2e^x$ .
- Verify that  $y = -t \cos t - t$  is a solution of the initial-value problem

$$t \frac{dy}{dt} = y + t^2 \sin t \quad y(\pi) = 0$$

- (a) For what values of  $r$  does the function  $y = e^{rx}$  satisfy the differential equation  $2y'' + y' - y = 0$ ?  
(b) If  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are the values of  $r$  that you found in part (a), show that every member of the family of functions  $y = ae^{r_1x} + be^{r_2x}$  is also a solution.
- (a) For what values of  $k$  does the function  $y = \cos kt$  satisfy the differential equation  $4y'' = -25y$ ?  
(b) For those values of  $k$ , verify that every member of the family of functions  $y = A \sin kt + B \cos kt$  is also a solution.
- Which of the following functions are solutions of the differential equation  $y'' + y = \sin x$ ?  
(a)  $y = \sin x$                       (b)  $y = \cos x$   
(c)  $y = \frac{1}{2}x \sin x$                 (d)  $y = -\frac{1}{2}x \cos x$

- (a) Show that every member of the family of functions  $y = (\ln x + C)/x$  is a solution of the differential equation  $x^2y' + xy = 1$ .  
(b) Illustrate part (a) by graphing several members of the family of solutions on a common screen.  
(c) Find a solution of the differential equation that satisfies the initial condition  $y(1) = 2$ .  
(d) Find a solution of the differential equation that satisfies the initial condition  $y(2) = 1$ .



- (a) What can you say about a solution of the equation  $y' = -y^2$  just by looking at the differential equation?  
(b) Verify that all members of the family  $y = 1/(x + C)$  are solutions of the equation in part (a).  
(c) Can you think of a solution of the differential equation  $y' = -y^2$  that is not a member of the family in part (b)?  
(d) Find a solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = -y^2 \quad y(0) = 0.5$$

- (a) What can you say about the graph of a solution of the equation  $y' = xy^3$  when  $x$  is close to 0? What if  $x$  is large?  
(b) Verify that all members of the family  $y = (c - x^2)^{-1/2}$  are solutions of the differential equation  $y' = xy^3$ .  
(c) Graph several members of the family of solutions on a common screen. Do the graphs confirm what you predicted in part (a)?  
(d) Find a solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = xy^3 \quad y(0) = 2$$

- A population is modeled by the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 1.2P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{4200} \right)$$

- For what values of  $P$  is the population increasing?
- For what values of  $P$  is the population decreasing?
- What are the equilibrium solutions?

- A function  $y(t)$  satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y^4 - 6y^3 + 5y^2$$

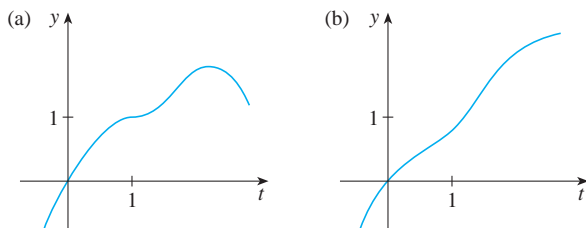
- What are the constant solutions of the equation?



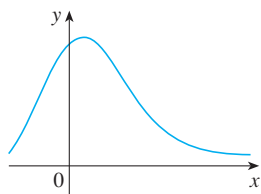
- (b) For what values of  $y$  is  $y$  increasing?  
 (c) For what values of  $y$  is  $y$  decreasing?

11. Explain why the functions with the given graphs *can't* be solutions of the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = e^y(y-1)^2$$



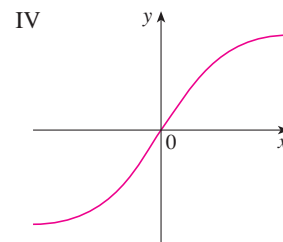
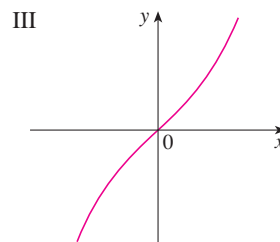
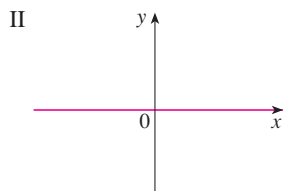
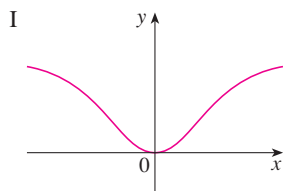
12. The function with the given graph is a solution of one of the following differential equations. Decide which is the correct equation and justify your answer.



- A.  $y' = 1 + xy$     B.  $y' = -2xy$     C.  $y' = 1 - 2xy$

13. Match the differential equations with the solution graphs labeled I–IV. Give reasons for your choices.

- (a)  $y' = 1 + x^2 + y^2$     (b)  $y' = xe^{-x^2-y^2}$   
 (c)  $y' = \frac{1}{1 + e^{x^2+y^2}}$     (d)  $y' = \sin(xy) \cos(xy)$



14. Suppose you have just poured a cup of freshly brewed coffee with temperature  $95^\circ\text{C}$  in a room where the temperature is  $20^\circ\text{C}$ .

- (a) When do you think the coffee cools most quickly? What happens to the rate of cooling as time goes by? Explain.  
 (b) Newton's Law of Cooling states that the rate of cooling of an object is proportional to the temperature difference between the object and its surroundings, provided that this difference is not too large. Write a differential equation that expresses Newton's Law of Cooling for this particular situation. What is the initial condition? In view of your answer to part (a), do you think this differential equation is an appropriate model for cooling?  
 (c) Make a rough sketch of the graph of the solution of the initial-value problem in part (b).

15. Psychologists interested in learning theory study **learning curves**. A learning curve is the graph of a function  $P(t)$ , the performance of someone learning a skill as a function of the training time  $t$ . The derivative  $dP/dt$  represents the rate at which performance improves.

- (a) When do you think  $P$  increases most rapidly? What happens to  $dP/dt$  as  $t$  increases? Explain.  
 (b) If  $M$  is the maximum level of performance of which the learner is capable, explain why the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = k(M - P) \quad k \text{ a positive constant}$$

is a reasonable model for learning.

- (c) Make a rough sketch of a possible solution of this differential equation.

## 9.2 Direction Fields and Euler's Method

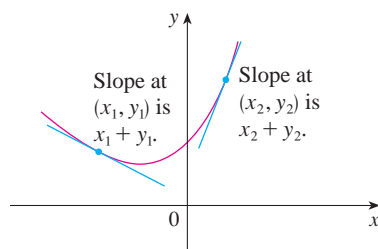
Unfortunately, it's impossible to solve most differential equations in the sense of obtaining an explicit formula for the solution. In this section we show that, despite the absence of an explicit solution, we can still learn a lot about the solution through a graphical approach (direction fields) or a numerical approach (Euler's method).

### Direction Fields

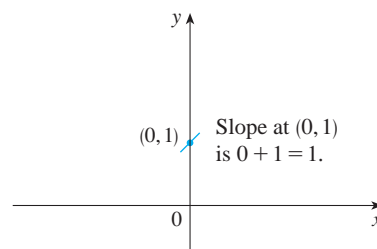
Suppose we are asked to sketch the graph of the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = x + y \quad y(0) = 1$$

We don't know a formula for the solution, so how can we possibly sketch its graph? Let's think about what the differential equation means. The equation  $y' = x + y$  tells us that the slope at any point  $(x, y)$  on the graph (called the *solution curve*) is equal to the sum of the  $x$ - and  $y$ -coordinates of the point (see Figure 1). In particular, because the curve passes through the point  $(0, 1)$ , its slope there must be  $0 + 1 = 1$ . So a small portion of the solution curve near the point  $(0, 1)$  looks like a short line segment through  $(0, 1)$  with slope 1. (See Figure 2.)

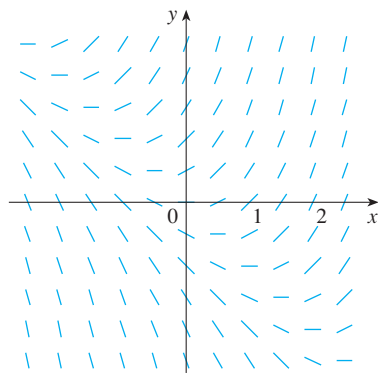


**FIGURE 1**  
A solution of  $y' = x + y$

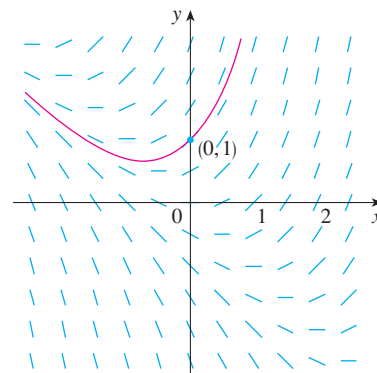


**FIGURE 2**  
Beginning of the solution curve through  $(0, 1)$

As a guide to sketching the rest of the curve, let's draw short line segments at a number of points  $(x, y)$  with slope  $x + y$ . The result is called a *direction field* and is shown in Figure 3. For instance, the line segment at the point  $(1, 2)$  has slope  $1 + 2 = 3$ . The direction field allows us to visualize the general shape of the solution curves by indicating the direction in which the curves proceed at each point.



**FIGURE 3**  
Direction field for  $y' = x + y$



**FIGURE 4**  
The solution curve through  $(0, 1)$

Now we can sketch the solution curve through the point  $(0, 1)$  by following the direction field as in Figure 4. Notice that we have drawn the curve so that it is parallel to nearby line segments.

In general, suppose we have a first-order differential equation of the form

$$y' = F(x, y)$$

where  $F(x, y)$  is some expression in  $x$  and  $y$ . The differential equation says that the slope of a solution curve at a point  $(x, y)$  on the curve is  $F(x, y)$ . If we draw short line segments with slope  $F(x, y)$  at several points  $(x, y)$ , the result is called a **direction field** (or **slope field**). These line segments indicate the direction in which a solution curve is heading, so the direction field helps us visualize the general shape of these curves.

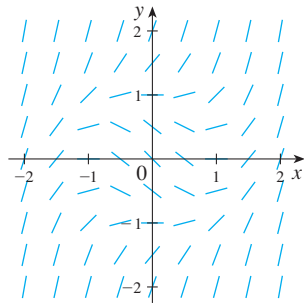


FIGURE 5

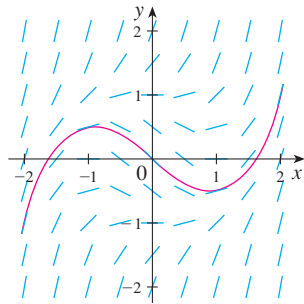


FIGURE 6

**TEC** Module 9.2A shows direction fields and solution curves for a variety of differential equations.

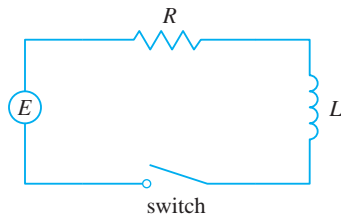


FIGURE 9

**V EXAMPLE 1**

- (a) Sketch the direction field for the differential equation  $y' = x^2 + y^2 - 1$ .  
 (b) Use part (a) to sketch the solution curve that passes through the origin.

**SOLUTION**

- (a) We start by computing the slope at several points in the following chart:

$x$	-2	-1	0	1	2	-2	-1	0	1	2	...
$y$	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	...
$y' = x^2 + y^2 - 1$	3	0	-1	0	3	4	1	0	1	4	...

Now we draw short line segments with these slopes at these points. The result is the direction field shown in Figure 5.

- (b) We start at the origin and move to the right in the direction of the line segment (which has slope  $-1$ ). We continue to draw the solution curve so that it moves parallel to the nearby line segments. The resulting solution curve is shown in Figure 6. Returning to the origin, we draw the solution curve to the left as well.

The more line segments we draw in a direction field, the clearer the picture becomes. Of course, it's tedious to compute slopes and draw line segments for a huge number of points by hand, but computers are well suited for this task. Figure 7 shows a more detailed, computer-drawn direction field for the differential equation in Example 1. It enables us to draw, with reasonable accuracy, the solution curves shown in Figure 8 with  $y$ -intercepts  $-2$ ,  $-1$ ,  $0$ ,  $1$ , and  $2$ .

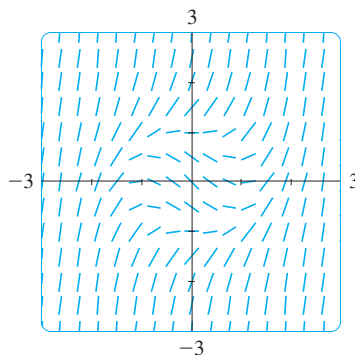


FIGURE 7

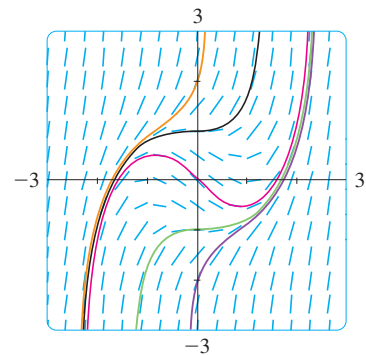


FIGURE 8

Now let's see how direction fields give insight into physical situations. The simple electric circuit shown in Figure 9 contains an electromotive force (usually a battery or generator) that produces a voltage of  $E(t)$  volts (V) and a current of  $I(t)$  amperes (A) at time  $t$ . The circuit also contains a resistor with a resistance of  $R$  ohms ( $\Omega$ ) and an inductor with an inductance of  $L$  henries (H).

Ohm's Law gives the drop in voltage due to the resistor as  $RI$ . The voltage drop due to the inductor is  $L(dI/dt)$ . One of Kirchhoff's laws says that the sum of the voltage drops is equal to the supplied voltage  $E(t)$ . Thus we have

$$\boxed{1} \quad L \frac{dI}{dt} + RI = E(t)$$

which is a first-order differential equation that models the current  $I$  at time  $t$ .

**V EXAMPLE 2** Suppose that in the simple circuit of Figure 9 the resistance is  $12 \Omega$ , the inductance is  $4 \text{ H}$ , and a battery gives a constant voltage of  $60 \text{ V}$ .

- Draw a direction field for Equation 1 with these values.
- What can you say about the limiting value of the current?
- Identify any equilibrium solutions.
- If the switch is closed when  $t = 0$  so the current starts with  $I(0) = 0$ , use the direction field to sketch the solution curve.

**SOLUTION**

(a) If we put  $L = 4$ ,  $R = 12$ , and  $E(t) = 60$  in Equation 1, we get

$$4 \frac{dI}{dt} + 12I = 60 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dI}{dt} = 15 - 3I$$

The direction field for this differential equation is shown in Figure 10.

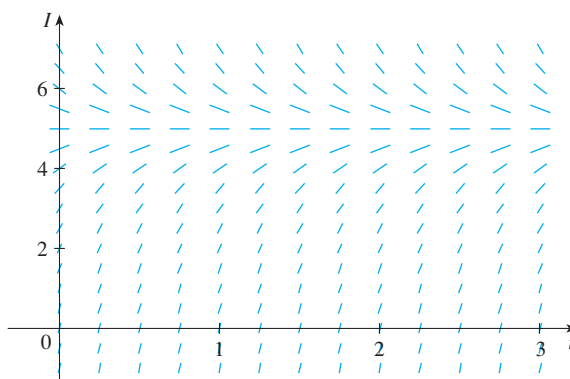


FIGURE 10

(b) It appears from the direction field that all solutions approach the value  $5 \text{ A}$ , that is,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) = 5$$

(c) It appears that the constant function  $I(t) = 5$  is an equilibrium solution. Indeed, we can verify this directly from the differential equation  $dI/dt = 15 - 3I$ . If  $I(t) = 5$ , then the left side is  $dI/dt = 0$  and the right side is  $15 - 3(5) = 0$ .

(d) We use the direction field to sketch the solution curve that passes through  $(0, 0)$ , as shown in red in Figure 11.

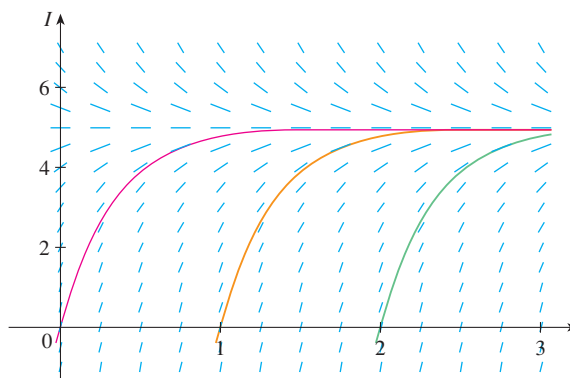


FIGURE 11

Notice from Figure 10 that the line segments along any horizontal line are parallel. That is because the independent variable  $t$  does not occur on the right side of the equation

$I' = 15 - 3I$ . In general, a differential equation of the form

$$y' = f(y)$$

in which the independent variable is missing from the right side, is called **autonomous**. For such an equation, the slopes corresponding to two different points with the same  $y$ -coordinate must be equal. This means that if we know one solution to an autonomous differential equation, then we can obtain infinitely many others just by shifting the graph of the known solution to the right or left. In Figure 11 we have shown the solutions that result from shifting the solution curve of Example 2 one and two time units (namely, seconds) to the right. They correspond to closing the switch when  $t = 1$  or  $t = 2$ .

### Euler's Method

The basic idea behind direction fields can be used to find numerical approximations to solutions of differential equations. We illustrate the method on the initial-value problem that we used to introduce direction fields:

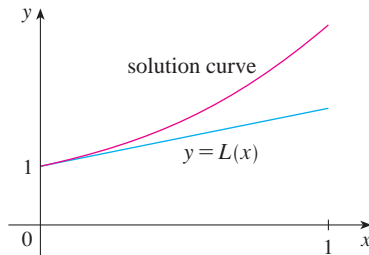
$$y' = x + y \quad y(0) = 1$$

The differential equation tells us that  $y'(0) = 0 + 1 = 1$ , so the solution curve has slope 1 at the point  $(0, 1)$ . As a first approximation to the solution we could use the linear approximation  $L(x) = x + 1$ . In other words, we could use the tangent line at  $(0, 1)$  as a rough approximation to the solution curve (see Figure 12).

Euler's idea was to improve on this approximation by proceeding only a short distance along this tangent line and then making a midcourse correction by changing direction as indicated by the direction field. Figure 13 shows what happens if we start out along the tangent line but stop when  $x = 0.5$ . (This horizontal distance traveled is called the *step size*.) Since  $L(0.5) = 1.5$ , we have  $y(0.5) \approx 1.5$  and we take  $(0.5, 1.5)$  as the starting point for a new line segment. The differential equation tells us that  $y'(0.5) = 0.5 + 1.5 = 2$ , so we use the linear function

$$y = 1.5 + 2(x - 0.5) = 2x + 0.5$$

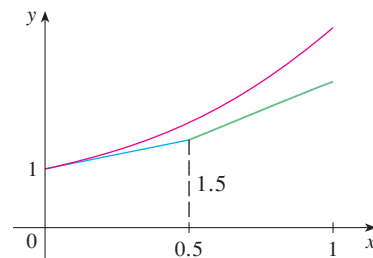
as an approximation to the solution for  $x > 0.5$  (the green segment in Figure 13). If we decrease the step size from 0.5 to 0.25, we get the better Euler approximation shown in Figure 14.



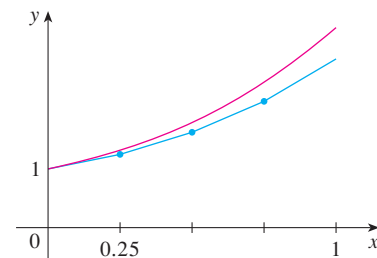
**FIGURE 12**  
First Euler approximation

### Euler

Leonhard Euler (1707–1783) was the leading mathematician of the mid-18th century and the most prolific mathematician of all time. He was born in Switzerland but spent most of his career at the academies of science supported by Catherine the Great in St. Petersburg and Frederick the Great in Berlin. The collected works of Euler (pronounced *Oiler*) fill about 100 large volumes. As the French physicist Arago said, “Euler calculated without apparent effort, as men breathe or as eagles sustain themselves in the air.” Euler’s calculations and writings were not diminished by raising 13 children or being totally blind for the last 17 years of his life. In fact, when blind, he dictated his discoveries to his helpers from his prodigious memory and imagination. His treatises on calculus and most other mathematical subjects became the standard for mathematics instruction and the equation  $e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$  that he discovered brings together the five most famous numbers in all of mathematics.



**FIGURE 13**  
Euler approximation with step size 0.5



**FIGURE 14**  
Euler approximation with step size 0.25

In general, Euler's method says to start at the point given by the initial value and proceed in the direction indicated by the direction field. Stop after a short time, look at the slope at the new location, and proceed in that direction. Keep stopping and changing direction according to the direction field. Euler's method does not produce the exact solution to an initial-value problem—it gives approximations. But by decreasing the step size (and therefore increasing the number of midcourse corrections), we obtain successively better approximations to the exact solution. (Compare Figures 12, 13, and 14.)

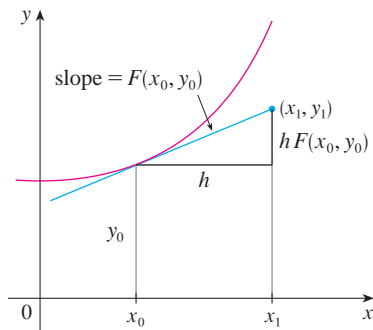


FIGURE 15

For the general first-order initial-value problem  $y' = F(x, y)$ ,  $y(x_0) = y_0$ , our aim is to find approximate values for the solution at equally spaced numbers  $x_0, x_1 = x_0 + h, x_2 = x_1 + h, \dots$ , where  $h$  is the step size. The differential equation tells us that the slope at  $(x_0, y_0)$  is  $y' = F(x_0, y_0)$ , so Figure 15 shows that the approximate value of the solution when  $x = x_1$  is

$$y_1 = y_0 + hF(x_0, y_0)$$

Similarly,

$$y_2 = y_1 + hF(x_1, y_1)$$

In general,

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + hF(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})$$

**Euler's Method** Approximate values for the solution of the initial-value problem  $y' = F(x, y)$ ,  $y(x_0) = y_0$ , with step size  $h$ , at  $x_n = x_{n-1} + h$ , are

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + hF(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}) \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

**EXAMPLE 3** Use Euler's method with step size 0.1 to construct a table of approximate values for the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = x + y \quad y(0) = 1$$

**SOLUTION** We are given that  $h = 0.1$ ,  $x_0 = 0$ ,  $y_0 = 1$ , and  $F(x, y) = x + y$ . So we have

$$y_1 = y_0 + hF(x_0, y_0) = 1 + 0.1(0 + 1) = 1.1$$

$$y_2 = y_1 + hF(x_1, y_1) = 1.1 + 0.1(0.1 + 1.1) = 1.22$$

$$y_3 = y_2 + hF(x_2, y_2) = 1.22 + 0.1(0.2 + 1.22) = 1.362$$

This means that if  $y(x)$  is the exact solution, then  $y(0.3) \approx 1.362$ .

Proceeding with similar calculations, we get the values in the table:

$n$	$x_n$	$y_n$	$n$	$x_n$	$y_n$
1	0.1	1.100000	6	0.6	1.943122
2	0.2	1.220000	7	0.7	2.197434
3	0.3	1.362000	8	0.8	2.487178
4	0.4	1.528200	9	0.9	2.815895
5	0.5	1.721020	10	1.0	3.187485

For a more accurate table of values in Example 3 we could decrease the step size. But for a large number of small steps the amount of computation is considerable and so we need to program a calculator or computer to carry out these calculations. The following table shows the results of applying Euler's method with decreasing step size to the initial-value problem of Example 3.

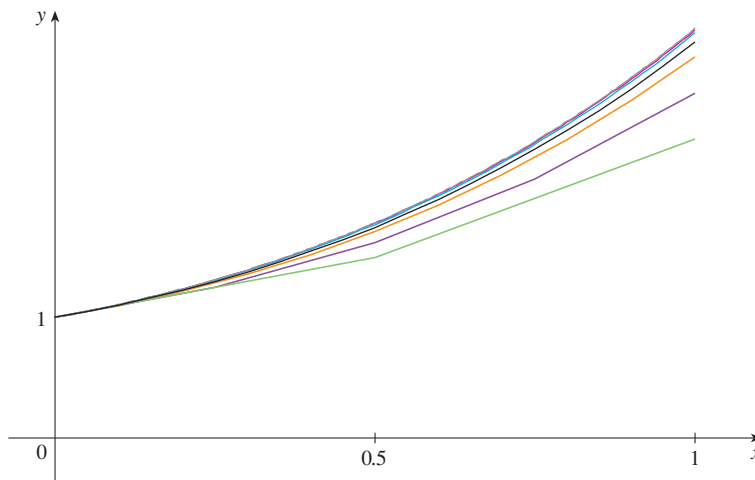
Step size	Euler estimate of $y(0.5)$	Euler estimate of $y(1)$
0.500	1.500000	2.500000
0.250	1.625000	2.882813
0.100	1.721020	3.187485
0.050	1.757789	3.306595
0.020	1.781212	3.383176
0.010	1.789264	3.409628
0.005	1.793337	3.423034
0.001	1.796619	3.433848

**TEC** Module 9.2B shows how Euler's method works numerically and visually for a variety of differential equations and step sizes.

Computer software packages that produce numerical approximations to solutions of differential equations use methods that are refinements of Euler's method. Although Euler's method is simple and not as accurate, it is the basic idea on which the more accurate methods are based.



Notice that the Euler estimates in the table seem to be approaching limits, namely, the true values of  $y(0.5)$  and  $y(1)$ . Figure 16 shows graphs of the Euler approximations with step sizes 0.5, 0.25, 0.1, 0.05, 0.02, 0.01, and 0.005. They are approaching the exact solution curve as the step size  $h$  approaches 0.



**FIGURE 16**  
Euler approximations  
approaching the exact solution

**V EXAMPLE 4** In Example 2 we discussed a simple electric circuit with resistance  $12 \Omega$ , inductance  $4 \text{ H}$ , and a battery with voltage  $60 \text{ V}$ . If the switch is closed when  $t = 0$ , we modeled the current  $I$  at time  $t$  by the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = 15 - 3I \quad I(0) = 0$$

Estimate the current in the circuit half a second after the switch is closed.

**SOLUTION** We use Euler's method with  $F(t, I) = 15 - 3I$ ,  $t_0 = 0$ ,  $I_0 = 0$ , and step size  $h = 0.1$  second:

$$I_1 = 0 + 0.1(15 - 3 \cdot 0) = 1.5$$

$$I_2 = 1.5 + 0.1(15 - 3 \cdot 1.5) = 2.55$$

$$I_3 = 2.55 + 0.1(15 - 3 \cdot 2.55) = 3.285$$

$$I_4 = 3.285 + 0.1(15 - 3 \cdot 3.285) = 3.7995$$

$$I_5 = 3.7995 + 0.1(15 - 3 \cdot 3.7995) = 4.15965$$

So the current after  $0.5 \text{ s}$  is

$$I(0.5) \approx 4.16 \text{ A}$$

## 9.2 Exercises

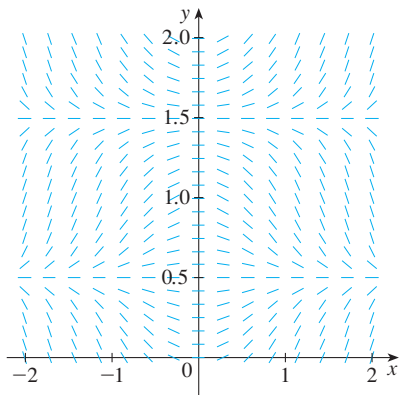
1. A direction field for the differential equation  $y' = x \cos \pi y$  is shown.

(a) Sketch the graphs of the solutions that satisfy the given initial conditions.

(i)  $y(0) = 0$       (ii)  $y(0) = 0.5$

(iii)  $y(0) = 1$       (iv)  $y(0) = 1.6$

(b) Find all the equilibrium solutions.



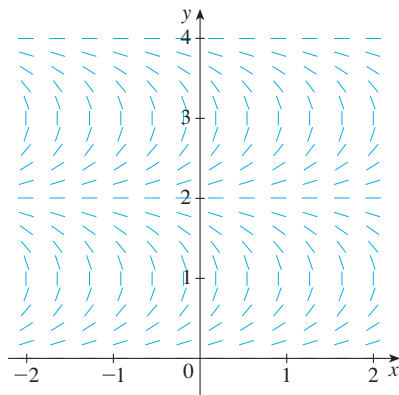
2. A direction field for the differential equation  $y' = \tan(\frac{1}{2}\pi y)$  is shown.

(a) Sketch the graphs of the solutions that satisfy the given initial conditions.

(i)  $y(0) = 1$       (ii)  $y(0) = 0.2$

(iii)  $y(0) = 2$       (iv)  $y(1) = 3$

(b) Find all the equilibrium solutions.

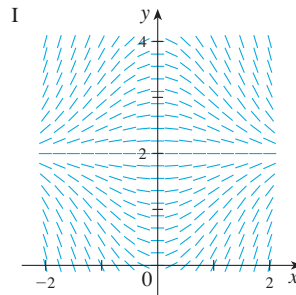


3–6 Match the differential equation with its direction field (labeled I–IV). Give reasons for your answer.

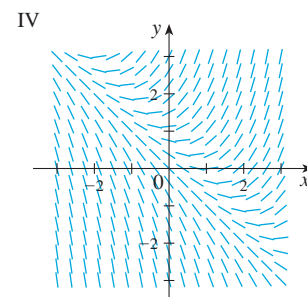
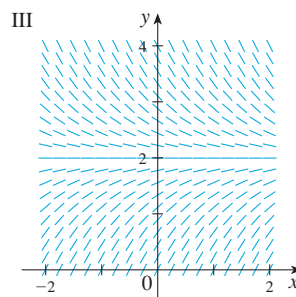
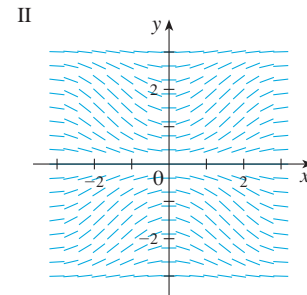
3.  $y' = 2 - y$

4.  $y' = x(2 - y)$

5.  $y' = x + y - 1$



6.  $y' = \sin x \sin y$



7. Use the direction field labeled II (above) to sketch the graphs of the solutions that satisfy the given initial conditions.

(a)  $y(0) = 1$       (b)  $y(0) = 2$       (c)  $y(0) = -1$

8. Use the direction field labeled IV (above) to sketch the graphs of the solutions that satisfy the given initial conditions.

(a)  $y(0) = -1$       (b)  $y(0) = 0$       (c)  $y(0) = 1$

9–10 Sketch a direction field for the differential equation. Then use it to sketch three solution curves.

9.  $y' = \frac{1}{2}y$

10.  $y' = x - y + 1$

11–14 Sketch the direction field of the differential equation. Then use it to sketch a solution curve that passes through the given point.

11.  $y' = y - 2x$ ,  $(1, 0)$

12.  $y' = xy - x^2$ ,  $(0, 1)$

13.  $y' = y + xy$ ,  $(0, 1)$

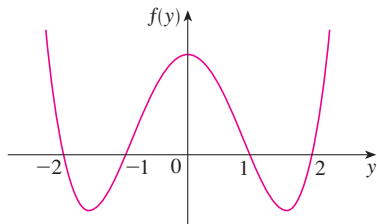
14.  $y' = x + y^2$ ,  $(0, 0)$

**CAS** 15–16 Use a computer algebra system to draw a direction field for the given differential equation. Get a printout and sketch on it the solution curve that passes through  $(0, 1)$ . Then use the CAS to draw the solution curve and compare it with your sketch.

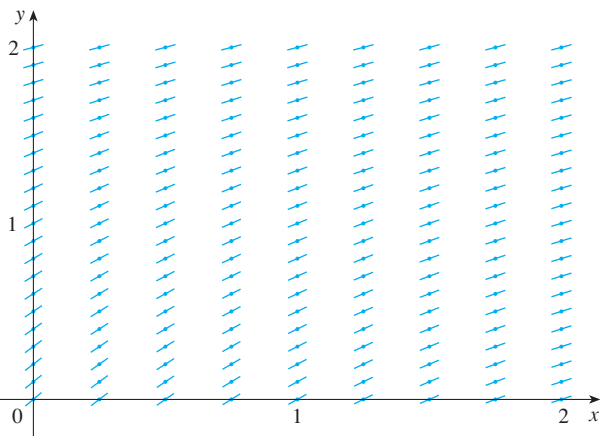
15.  $y' = x^2 \sin y$

16.  $y' = x(y^2 - 4)$

- CAS** 17. Use a computer algebra system to draw a direction field for the differential equation  $y' = y^3 - 4y$ . Get a printout and sketch on it solutions that satisfy the initial condition  $y(0) = c$  for various values of  $c$ . For what values of  $c$  does  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t)$  exist? What are the possible values for this limit?
18. Make a rough sketch of a direction field for the autonomous differential equation  $y' = f(y)$ , where the graph of  $f$  is as shown. How does the limiting behavior of solutions depend on the value of  $y(0)$ ?



19. (a) Use Euler's method with each of the following step sizes to estimate the value of  $y(0.4)$ , where  $y$  is the solution of the initial-value problem  $y' = y$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ .  
 (i)  $h = 0.4$       (ii)  $h = 0.2$       (iii)  $h = 0.1$
- (b) We know that the exact solution of the initial-value problem in part (a) is  $y = e^x$ . Draw, as accurately as you can, the graph of  $y = e^x$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 0.4$ , together with the Euler approximations using the step sizes in part (a). (Your sketches should resemble Figures 12, 13, and 14.) Use your sketches to decide whether your estimates in part (a) are underestimates or overestimates.
- (c) The error in Euler's method is the difference between the exact value and the approximate value. Find the errors made in part (a) in using Euler's method to estimate the true value of  $y(0.4)$ , namely  $e^{0.4}$ . What happens to the error each time the step size is halved?
20. A direction field for a differential equation is shown. Draw, with a ruler, the graphs of the Euler approximations to the solution curve that passes through the origin. Use step sizes  $h = 1$  and  $h = 0.5$ . Will the Euler estimates be underestimates or overestimates? Explain.



21. Use Euler's method with step size 0.5 to compute the approximate  $y$ -values  $y_1, y_2, y_3$ , and  $y_4$  of the solution of the initial-value problem  $y' = y - 2x$ ,  $y(1) = 0$ .
22. Use Euler's method with step size 0.2 to estimate  $y(1)$ , where  $y(x)$  is the solution of the initial-value problem  $y' = xy - x^2$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ .
23. Use Euler's method with step size 0.1 to estimate  $y(0.5)$ , where  $y(x)$  is the solution of the initial-value problem  $y' = y + xy$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ .
24. (a) Use Euler's method with step size 0.2 to estimate  $y(0.4)$ , where  $y(x)$  is the solution of the initial-value problem  $y' = x + y^2$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ .  
 (b) Repeat part (a) with step size 0.1.
- TI** 25. (a) Program a calculator or computer to use Euler's method to compute  $y(1)$ , where  $y(x)$  is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + 3x^2y = 6x^2 \quad y(0) = 3$$

- (i)  $h = 1$       (ii)  $h = 0.1$   
 (iii)  $h = 0.01$       (iv)  $h = 0.001$
- (b) Verify that  $y = 2 + e^{-x^3}$  is the exact solution of the differential equation.
- (c) Find the errors in using Euler's method to compute  $y(1)$  with the step sizes in part (a). What happens to the error when the step size is divided by 10?

- CAS** 26. (a) Program your computer algebra system, using Euler's method with step size 0.01, to calculate  $y(2)$ , where  $y$  is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = x^3 - y^3 \quad y(0) = 1$$

- (b) Check your work by using the CAS to draw the solution curve.

27. The figure shows a circuit containing an electromotive force, a capacitor with a capacitance of  $C$  farads (F), and a resistor with a resistance of  $R$  ohms ( $\Omega$ ). The voltage drop across the capacitor is  $Q/C$ , where  $Q$  is the charge (in coulombs, C), so in this case Kirchhoff's Law gives

$$RI + \frac{Q}{C} = E(t)$$

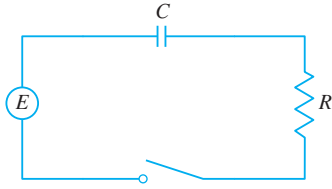
But  $I = dQ/dt$ , so we have

$$R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} Q = E(t)$$

Suppose the resistance is  $5 \Omega$ , the capacitance is  $0.05$  F, and a battery gives a constant voltage of  $60$  V.

- (a) Draw a direction field for this differential equation.  
 (b) What is the limiting value of the charge?  
 (c) Is there an equilibrium solution?  
 (d) If the initial charge is  $Q(0) = 0$  C, use the direction field to sketch the solution curve.

- (e) If the initial charge is  $Q(0) = 0$  C, use Euler's method with step size 0.1 to estimate the charge after half a second.



28. In Exercise 14 in Section 9.1 we considered a  $95^\circ\text{C}$  cup of coffee in a  $20^\circ\text{C}$  room. Suppose it is known that the coffee cools at a rate of  $1^\circ\text{C}$  per minute when its temperature is  $70^\circ\text{C}$ .
- What does the differential equation become in this case?
  - Sketch a direction field and use it to sketch the solution curve for the initial-value problem. What is the limiting value of the temperature?
  - Use Euler's method with step size  $h = 2$  minutes to estimate the temperature of the coffee after 10 minutes.

### 9.3 Separable Equations

We have looked at first-order differential equations from a geometric point of view (direction fields) and from a numerical point of view (Euler's method). What about the symbolic point of view? It would be nice to have an explicit formula for a solution of a differential equation. Unfortunately, that is not always possible. But in this section we examine a certain type of differential equation that *can* be solved explicitly.

A **separable equation** is a first-order differential equation in which the expression for  $dy/dx$  can be factored as a function of  $x$  times a function of  $y$ . In other words, it can be written in the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x)f(y)$$

The name *separable* comes from the fact that the expression on the right side can be “separated” into a function of  $x$  and a function of  $y$ . Equivalently, if  $f(y) \neq 0$ , we could write

$$\boxed{1} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{g(x)}{h(y)}$$

where  $h(y) = 1/f(y)$ . To solve this equation we rewrite it in the differential form

$$h(y) dy = g(x) dx$$

so that all  $y$ 's are on one side of the equation and all  $x$ 's are on the other side. Then we integrate both sides of the equation:

$$\boxed{2} \quad \int h(y) dy = \int g(x) dx$$

Equation 2 defines  $y$  implicitly as a function of  $x$ . In some cases we may be able to solve for  $y$  in terms of  $x$ .

We use the Chain Rule to justify this procedure: If  $h$  and  $g$  satisfy  $\boxed{2}$ , then

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \int h(y) dy \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \int g(x) dx \right)$$

so 
$$\frac{d}{dy} \left( \int h(y) dy \right) \frac{dy}{dx} = g(x)$$

and 
$$h(y) \frac{dy}{dx} = g(x)$$

Thus Equation 1 is satisfied.

The technique for solving separable differential equations was first used by James Bernoulli (in 1690) in solving a problem about pendulums and by Leibniz (in a letter to Huygens in 1691). John Bernoulli explained the general method in a paper published in 1694.

**EXAMPLE 1**

- (a) Solve the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2}{y^2}$ .
- (b) Find the solution of this equation that satisfies the initial condition  $y(0) = 2$ .

**SOLUTION**

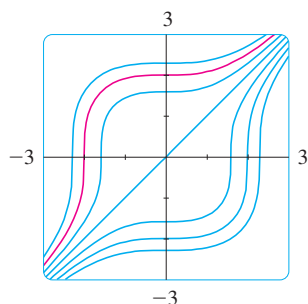
(a) We write the equation in terms of differentials and integrate both sides:

$$y^2 dy = x^2 dx$$

$$\int y^2 dy = \int x^2 dx$$

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

Figure 1 shows graphs of several members of the family of solutions of the differential equation in Example 1. The solution of the initial-value problem in part (b) is shown in red.

**FIGURE 1**

where  $C$  is an arbitrary constant. (We could have used a constant  $C_1$  on the left side and another constant  $C_2$  on the right side. But then we could combine these constants by writing  $C = C_2 - C_1$ .)

Solving for  $y$ , we get

$$y = \sqrt[3]{x^3 + 3C}$$

We could leave the solution like this or we could write it in the form

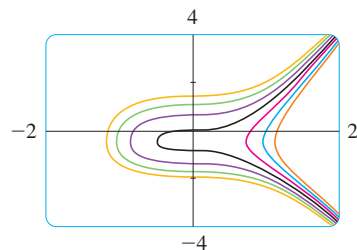
$$y = \sqrt[3]{x^3 + K}$$

where  $K = 3C$ . (Since  $C$  is an arbitrary constant, so is  $K$ .)

(b) If we put  $x = 0$  in the general solution in part (a), we get  $y(0) = \sqrt[3]{K}$ . To satisfy the initial condition  $y(0) = 2$ , we must have  $\sqrt[3]{K} = 2$  and so  $K = 8$ . Thus the solution of the initial-value problem is

$$y = \sqrt[3]{x^3 + 8}$$

Some computer algebra systems can plot curves defined by implicit equations. Figure 2 shows the graphs of several members of the family of solutions of the differential equation in Example 2. As we look at the curves from left to right, the values of  $C$  are 3, 2, 1, 0, -1, -2, and -3.

**FIGURE 2**

**EXAMPLE 2** Solve the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{6x^2}{2y + \cos y}$ .

**SOLUTION** Writing the equation in differential form and integrating both sides, we have

$$(2y + \cos y)dy = 6x^2 dx$$

$$\int (2y + \cos y)dy = \int 6x^2 dx$$

$$\text{3} \quad y^2 + \sin y = 2x^3 + C$$

where  $C$  is a constant. Equation 3 gives the general solution implicitly. In this case it's impossible to solve the equation to express  $y$  explicitly as a function of  $x$ .

**EXAMPLE 3** Solve the equation  $y' = x^2 y$ .

**SOLUTION** First we rewrite the equation using Leibniz notation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2 y$$

If a solution  $y$  is a function that satisfies  $y(x) \neq 0$  for some  $x$ , it follows from a uniqueness theorem for solutions of differential equations that  $y(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x$ .

If  $y \neq 0$ , we can rewrite it in differential notation and integrate:

$$\frac{dy}{y} = x^2 dx \quad y \neq 0$$

$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int x^2 dx$$

$$\ln |y| = \frac{x^3}{3} + C$$

This equation defines  $y$  implicitly as a function of  $x$ . But in this case we can solve explicitly for  $y$  as follows:

$$|y| = e^{\ln |y|} = e^{(x^3/3)+C} = e^C e^{x^3/3}$$

so 
$$y = \pm e^C e^{x^3/3}$$

We can easily verify that the function  $y = 0$  is also a solution of the given differential equation. So we can write the general solution in the form

$$y = A e^{x^3/3}$$

where  $A$  is an arbitrary constant ( $A = e^C$ , or  $A = -e^C$ , or  $A = 0$ ).

Figure 3 shows a direction field for the differential equation in Example 3. Compare it with Figure 4, in which we use the equation  $y = A e^{x^3/3}$  to graph solutions for several values of  $A$ . If you use the direction field to sketch solution curves with  $y$ -intercepts 5, 2, 1,  $-1$ , and  $-2$ , they will resemble the curves in Figure 4.

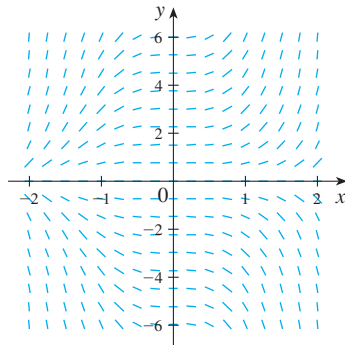


FIGURE 3

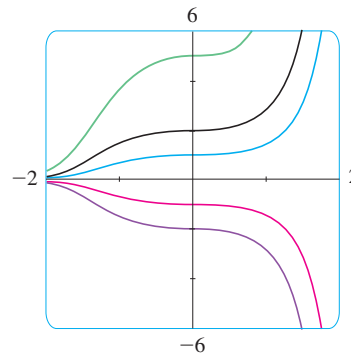


FIGURE 4

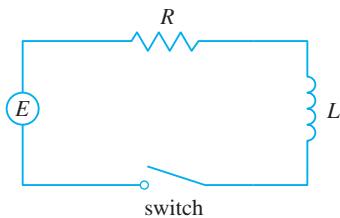


FIGURE 5

**EXAMPLE 4** In Section 9.2 we modeled the current  $I(t)$  in the electric circuit shown in Figure 5 by the differential equation

$$L \frac{dI}{dt} + RI = E(t)$$

Find an expression for the current in a circuit where the resistance is  $12 \Omega$ , the inductance is  $4 \text{ H}$ , a battery gives a constant voltage of  $60 \text{ V}$ , and the switch is turned on when  $t = 0$ . What is the limiting value of the current?

**SOLUTION** With  $L = 4$ ,  $R = 12$ , and  $E(t) = 60$ , the equation becomes

$$4 \frac{dI}{dt} + 12I = 60 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dI}{dt} = 15 - 3I$$



and the initial-value problem is

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = 15 - 3I \quad I(0) = 0$$

We recognize this equation as being separable, and we solve it as follows:

$$\int \frac{dI}{15 - 3I} = \int dt \quad (15 - 3I \neq 0)$$

$$-\frac{1}{3} \ln |15 - 3I| = t + C$$

$$|15 - 3I| = e^{-3(t+C)}$$

$$15 - 3I = \pm e^{-3C} e^{-3t} = A e^{-3t}$$

$$I = 5 - \frac{1}{3} A e^{-3t}$$

Since  $I(0) = 0$ , we have  $5 - \frac{1}{3}A = 0$ , so  $A = 15$  and the solution is

$$I(t) = 5 - 5e^{-3t}$$

The limiting current, in amperes, is

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (5 - 5e^{-3t}) = 5 - 5 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-3t} = 5 - 0 = 5$$

Figure 6 shows how the solution in Example 4 (the current) approaches its limiting value. Comparison with Figure 11 in Section 9.2 shows that we were able to draw a fairly accurate solution curve from the direction field.

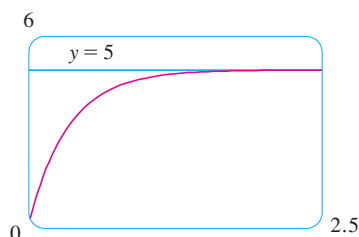


FIGURE 6

### Orthogonal Trajectories

An **orthogonal trajectory** of a family of curves is a curve that intersects each curve of the family orthogonally, that is, at right angles (see Figure 7). For instance, each member of the family  $y = mx$  of straight lines through the origin is an orthogonal trajectory of the family  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$  of concentric circles with center the origin (see Figure 8). We say that the two families are orthogonal trajectories of each other.

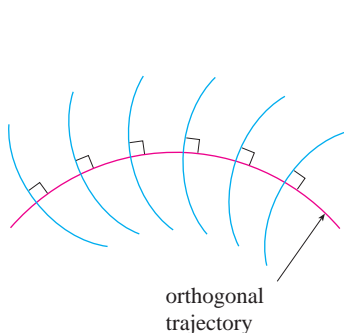


FIGURE 7

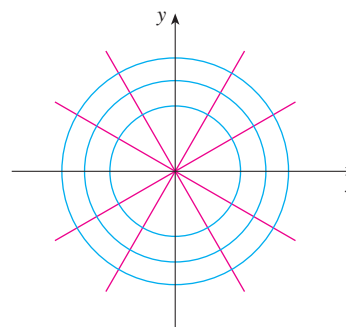


FIGURE 8

**V EXAMPLE 5** Find the orthogonal trajectories of the family of curves  $x = ky^2$ , where  $k$  is an arbitrary constant.

**SOLUTION** The curves  $x = ky^2$  form a family of parabolas whose axis of symmetry is the  $x$ -axis. The first step is to find a single differential equation that is satisfied by all

members of the family. If we differentiate  $x = ky^2$ , we get

$$1 = 2ky \frac{dy}{dx} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2ky}$$

This differential equation depends on  $k$ , but we need an equation that is valid for all values of  $k$  simultaneously. To eliminate  $k$  we note that, from the equation of the given general parabola  $x = ky^2$ , we have  $k = x/y^2$  and so the differential equation can be written as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2ky} = \frac{1}{2 \frac{x}{y^2} y}$$

or 
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{2x}$$

This means that the slope of the tangent line at any point  $(x, y)$  on one of the parabolas is  $y' = y/(2x)$ . On an orthogonal trajectory the slope of the tangent line must be the negative reciprocal of this slope. Therefore the orthogonal trajectories must satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2x}{y}$$

This differential equation is separable, and we solve it as follows:

$$\int y \, dy = -\int 2x \, dx$$

$$\frac{y^2}{2} = -x^2 + C$$

$$x^2 + \frac{y^2}{2} = C$$

where  $C$  is an arbitrary positive constant. Thus the orthogonal trajectories are the family of ellipses given by Equation 4 and sketched in Figure 9. ■

Orthogonal trajectories occur in various branches of physics. For example, in an electrostatic field the lines of force are orthogonal to the lines of constant potential. Also, the streamlines in aerodynamics are orthogonal trajectories of the velocity-equipotential curves.

### ■ Mixing Problems

A typical mixing problem involves a tank of fixed capacity filled with a thoroughly mixed solution of some substance, such as salt. A solution of a given concentration enters the tank at a fixed rate and the mixture, thoroughly stirred, leaves at a fixed rate, which may differ from the entering rate. If  $y(t)$  denotes the amount of substance in the tank at time  $t$ , then  $y'(t)$  is the rate at which the substance is being added minus the rate at which it is being removed. The mathematical description of this situation often leads to a first-order separable differential equation. We can use the same type of reasoning to model a variety of phenomena: chemical reactions, discharge of pollutants into a lake, injection of a drug into the bloodstream.

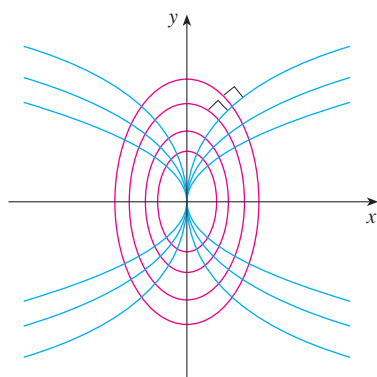


FIGURE 9

**EXAMPLE 6** A tank contains 20 kg of salt dissolved in 5000 L of water. Brine that contains 0.03 kg of salt per liter of water enters the tank at a rate of 25 L/min. The solution is kept thoroughly mixed and drains from the tank at the same rate. How much salt remains in the tank after half an hour?

**SOLUTION** Let  $y(t)$  be the amount of salt (in kilograms) after  $t$  minutes. We are given that  $y(0) = 20$  and we want to find  $y(30)$ . We do this by finding a differential equation satisfied by  $y(t)$ . Note that  $dy/dt$  is the rate of change of the amount of salt, so

$$\boxed{5} \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = (\text{rate in}) - (\text{rate out})$$

where (rate in) is the rate at which salt enters the tank and (rate out) is the rate at which salt leaves the tank. We have

$$\text{rate in} = \left(0.03 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{L}}\right) \left(25 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{min}}\right) = 0.75 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{min}}$$

The tank always contains 5000 L of liquid, so the concentration at time  $t$  is  $y(t)/5000$  (measured in kilograms per liter). Since the brine flows out at a rate of 25 L/min, we have

$$\text{rate out} = \left(\frac{y(t)}{5000} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{L}}\right) \left(25 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{min}}\right) = \frac{y(t)}{200} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{min}}$$

Thus, from Equation 5, we get

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.75 - \frac{y(t)}{200} = \frac{150 - y(t)}{200}$$

Solving this separable differential equation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dy}{150 - y} &= \int \frac{dt}{200} \\ -\ln |150 - y| &= \frac{t}{200} + C \end{aligned}$$

Figure 10 shows the graph of the function  $y(t)$  of Example 6. Notice that, as time goes by, the amount of salt approaches 150 kg.

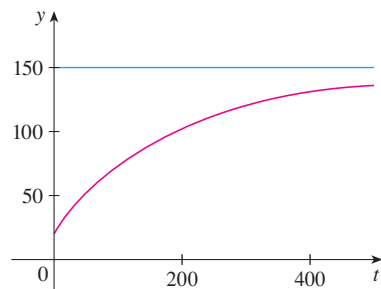


FIGURE 10

Since  $y(0) = 20$ , we have  $-\ln 130 = C$ , so

$$-\ln |150 - y| = \frac{t}{200} - \ln 130$$

Therefore

$$|150 - y| = 130e^{-t/200}$$

Since  $y(t)$  is continuous and  $y(0) = 20$  and the right side is never 0, we deduce that  $150 - y(t)$  is always positive. Thus  $|150 - y| = 150 - y$  and so

$$y(t) = 150 - 130e^{-t/200}$$

The amount of salt after 30 min is

$$y(30) = 150 - 130e^{-30/200} \approx 38.1 \text{ kg}$$

## 9.3 Exercises

1–10 Solve the differential equation.

1.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^2$

2.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = xe^{-y}$

3.  $xy^2y' = x + 1$

4.  $(y^2 + xy^2)y' = 1$

5.  $(y + \sin y)y' = x + x^3$

6.  $\frac{dv}{ds} = \frac{s + 1}{sv + s}$

7.  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{t}{ye^{y+t^2}}$

8.  $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = \frac{e^y \sin^2 \theta}{y \sec \theta}$

9.  $\frac{dp}{dt} = t^2p - p + t^2 - 1$

10.  $\frac{dz}{dt} + e^{t+z} = 0$

11–18 Find the solution of the differential equation that satisfies the given initial condition.

11.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y}, \quad y(0) = -3$

12.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\ln x}{xy}, \quad y(1) = 2$

13.  $\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{2t + \sec^2 t}{2u}, \quad u(0) = -5$

14.  $y' = \frac{xy \sin x}{y + 1}, \quad y(0) = 1$

15.  $x \ln x = y(1 + \sqrt{3 + y^2})y', \quad y(1) = 1$

16.  $\frac{dP}{dt} = \sqrt{Pt}, \quad P(1) = 2$

17.  $y' \tan x = a + y, \quad y(\pi/3) = a, \quad 0 < x < \pi/2$

18.  $\frac{dL}{dt} = kL^2 \ln t, \quad L(1) = -1$

19. Find an equation of the curve that passes through the point (0, 1) and whose slope at (x, y) is xy.

20. Find the function f such that  $f'(x) = f(x)(1 - f(x))$  and  $f(0) = \frac{1}{2}$ .21. Solve the differential equation  $y' = x + y$  by making the change of variable  $u = x + y$ .22. Solve the differential equation  $xy' = y + xe^{y/x}$  by making the change of variable  $v = y/x$ .23. (a) Solve the differential equation  $y' = 2x\sqrt{1 - y^2}$ .(b) Solve the initial-value problem  $y' = 2x\sqrt{1 - y^2}$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ , and graph the solution.(c) Does the initial-value problem  $y' = 2x\sqrt{1 - y^2}$ ,  $y(0) = 2$ , have a solution? Explain.24. Solve the equation  $e^{-y}y' + \cos x = 0$  and graph several members of the family of solutions. How does the solution curve change as the constant C varies?CAS 25. Solve the initial-value problem  $y' = (\sin x)/\sin y$ ,  $y(0) = \pi/2$ , and graph the solution (if your CAS does implicit plots).CAS 26. Solve the equation  $y' = x\sqrt{x^2 + 1}/(ye^y)$  and graph several members of the family of solutions (if your CAS does implicit plots). How does the solution curve change as the constant C varies?

CAS 27–28

(a) Use a computer algebra system to draw a direction field for the differential equation. Get a printout and use it to sketch some solution curves without solving the differential equation.

(b) Solve the differential equation.

(c) Use the CAS to draw several members of the family of solutions obtained in part (b). Compare with the curves from part (a).

27.  $y' = y^2$

28.  $y' = xy$

29–32 Find the orthogonal trajectories of the family of curves. Use a graphing device to draw several members of each family on a common screen.

29.  $x^2 + 2y^2 = k^2$

30.  $y^2 = kx^3$

31.  $y = \frac{k}{x}$

32.  $y = \frac{x}{1 + kx}$

33–35 An **integral equation** is an equation that contains an unknown function  $y(x)$  and an integral that involves  $y(x)$ . Solve the given integral equation. [Hint: Use an initial condition obtained from the integral equation.]

33.  $y(x) = 2 + \int_2^x [t - ty(t)] dt$

34.  $y(x) = 2 + \int_1^x \frac{dt}{ty(t)}, \quad x > 0$

35.  $y(x) = 4 + \int_0^x 2t\sqrt{y(t)} dt$

36. Find a function  $f$  such that  $f(3) = 2$  and

$$(t^2 + 1)f'(t) + [f(t)]^2 + 1 = 0 \quad t \neq 1$$

[Hint: Use the addition formula for  $\tan(x + y)$  on Reference Page 2.]

37. Solve the initial-value problem in Exercise 27 in Section 9.2 to find an expression for the charge at time  $t$ . Find the limiting value of the charge.
38. In Exercise 28 in Section 9.2 we discussed a differential equation that models the temperature of a  $95^\circ\text{C}$  cup of coffee in a  $20^\circ\text{C}$  room. Solve the differential equation to find an expression for the temperature of the coffee at time  $t$ .
39. In Exercise 15 in Section 9.1 we formulated a model for learning in the form of the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = k(M - P)$$

where  $P(t)$  measures the performance of someone learning a skill after a training time  $t$ ,  $M$  is the maximum level of performance, and  $k$  is a positive constant. Solve this differential equation to find an expression for  $P(t)$ . What is the limit of this expression?

40. In an elementary chemical reaction, single molecules of two reactants A and B form a molecule of the product C:  $A + B \rightarrow C$ . The law of mass action states that the rate of reaction is proportional to the product of the concentrations of A and B:

$$\frac{d[C]}{dt} = k[A][B]$$

(See Example 4 in Section 2.7.) Thus, if the initial concentrations are  $[A] = a$  moles/L and  $[B] = b$  moles/L and we write  $x = [C]$ , then we have

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x)(b - x)$$

- (a) Assuming that  $a \neq b$ , find  $x$  as a function of  $t$ . Use the fact that the initial concentration of C is 0.
- (b) Find  $x(t)$  assuming that  $a = b$ . How does this expression for  $x(t)$  simplify if it is known that  $[C] = \frac{1}{2}a$  after 20 seconds?
41. In contrast to the situation of Exercise 40, experiments show that the reaction  $\text{H}_2 + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{HBr}$  satisfies the rate law

$$\frac{d[\text{HBr}]}{dt} = k[\text{H}_2][\text{Br}_2]^{1/2}$$

and so for this reaction the differential equation becomes

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x)(b - x)^{1/2}$$

where  $x = [\text{HBr}]$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are the initial concentrations of hydrogen and bromine.

- (a) Find  $x$  as a function of  $t$  in the case where  $a = b$ . Use the fact that  $x(0) = 0$ .

(b) If  $a > b$ , find  $t$  as a function of  $x$ . [Hint: In performing the integration, make the substitution  $u = \sqrt{b - x}$ .]

42. A sphere with radius 1 m has temperature  $15^\circ\text{C}$ . It lies inside a concentric sphere with radius 2 m and temperature  $25^\circ\text{C}$ . The temperature  $T(r)$  at a distance  $r$  from the common center of the spheres satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2T}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{dT}{dr} = 0$$

If we let  $S = dT/dr$ , then  $S$  satisfies a first-order differential equation. Solve it to find an expression for the temperature  $T(r)$  between the spheres.

43. A glucose solution is administered intravenously into the bloodstream at a constant rate  $r$ . As the glucose is added, it is converted into other substances and removed from the bloodstream at a rate that is proportional to the concentration at that time. Thus a model for the concentration  $C = C(t)$  of the glucose solution in the bloodstream is

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = r - kC$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant.

- (a) Suppose that the concentration at time  $t = 0$  is  $C_0$ . Determine the concentration at any time  $t$  by solving the differential equation.
- (b) Assuming that  $C_0 < r/k$ , find  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C(t)$  and interpret your answer.
44. A certain small country has \$10 billion in paper currency in circulation, and each day \$50 million comes into the country's banks. The government decides to introduce new currency by having the banks replace old bills with new ones whenever old currency comes into the banks. Let  $x = x(t)$  denote the amount of new currency in circulation at time  $t$ , with  $x(0) = 0$ .
- (a) Formulate a mathematical model in the form of an initial-value problem that represents the "flow" of the new currency into circulation.
- (b) Solve the initial-value problem found in part (a).
- (c) How long will it take for the new bills to account for 90% of the currency in circulation?

45. A tank contains 1000 L of brine with 15 kg of dissolved salt. Pure water enters the tank at a rate of 10 L/min. The solution is kept thoroughly mixed and drains from the tank at the same rate. How much salt is in the tank (a) after  $t$  minutes and (b) after 20 minutes?

46. The air in a room with volume  $180 \text{ m}^3$  contains 0.15% carbon dioxide initially. Fresher air with only 0.05% carbon dioxide flows into the room at a rate of  $2 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$  and the mixed air flows out at the same rate. Find the percentage of carbon dioxide in the room as a function of time. What happens in the long run?

47. A vat with 500 gallons of beer contains 4% alcohol (by volume). Beer with 6% alcohol is pumped into the vat at a rate of 5 gal/min and the mixture is pumped out at the same rate. What is the percentage of alcohol after an hour?

48. A tank contains 1000 L of pure water. Brine that contains 0.05 kg of salt per liter of water enters the tank at a rate of 5 L/min. Brine that contains 0.04 kg of salt per liter of water enters the tank at a rate of 10 L/min. The solution is kept thoroughly mixed and drains from the tank at a rate of 15 L/min. How much salt is in the tank (a) after  $t$  minutes and (b) after one hour?

49. When a raindrop falls, it increases in size and so its mass at time  $t$  is a function of  $t$ , namely  $m(t)$ . The rate of growth of the mass is  $km(t)$  for some positive constant  $k$ . When we apply Newton's Law of Motion to the raindrop, we get  $(mv)' = gm$ , where  $v$  is the velocity of the raindrop (directed downward) and  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity. The *terminal velocity* of the raindrop is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t)$ . Find an expression for the terminal velocity in terms of  $g$  and  $k$ .

50. An object of mass  $m$  is moving horizontally through a medium which resists the motion with a force that is a function of the velocity; that is,

$$m \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = m \frac{dv}{dt} = f(v)$$

where  $v = v(t)$  and  $s = s(t)$  represent the velocity and position of the object at time  $t$ , respectively. For example, think of a boat moving through the water.

(a) Suppose that the resisting force is proportional to the velocity, that is,  $f(v) = -kv$ ,  $k$  a positive constant. (This model is appropriate for small values of  $v$ .) Let  $v(0) = v_0$  and  $s(0) = s_0$  be the initial values of  $v$  and  $s$ . Determine  $v$  and  $s$  at any time  $t$ . What is the total distance that the object travels from time  $t = 0$ ?

(b) For larger values of  $v$  a better model is obtained by supposing that the resisting force is proportional to the square of the velocity, that is,  $f(v) = -kv^2$ ,  $k > 0$ . (This model was first proposed by Newton.) Let  $v_0$  and  $s_0$  be the initial values of  $v$  and  $s$ . Determine  $v$  and  $s$  at any time  $t$ . What is the total distance that the object travels in this case?

51. *Allometric growth* in biology refers to relationships between sizes of parts of an organism (skull length and body length, for instance). If  $L_1(t)$  and  $L_2(t)$  are the sizes of two organs in an organism of age  $t$ , then  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  satisfy an allometric law if their specific growth rates are proportional:

$$\frac{1}{L_1} \frac{dL_1}{dt} = k \frac{1}{L_2} \frac{dL_2}{dt}$$

where  $k$  is a constant.

(a) Use the allometric law to write a differential equation relating  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  and solve it to express  $L_1$  as a function of  $L_2$ .

(b) In a study of several species of unicellular algae, the proportionality constant in the allometric law relating  $B$  (cell biomass) and  $V$  (cell volume) was found to be  $k = 0.0794$ . Write  $B$  as a function of  $V$ .

52. *Homeostasis* refers to a state in which the nutrient content of a consumer is independent of the nutrient content of its food. In the absence of homeostasis, a model proposed by Sterner and Elser is given by

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\theta} \frac{y}{x}$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  represent the nutrient content of the food and the consumer, respectively, and  $\theta$  is a constant with  $\theta \geq 1$ .

(a) Solve the differential equation.

(b) What happens when  $\theta = 1$ ? What happens when  $\theta \rightarrow \infty$ ?

53. Let  $A(t)$  be the area of a tissue culture at time  $t$  and let  $M$  be the final area of the tissue when growth is complete. Most cell divisions occur on the periphery of the tissue and the number of cells on the periphery is proportional to  $\sqrt{A(t)}$ . So a reasonable model for the growth of tissue is obtained by assuming that the rate of growth of the area is jointly proportional to  $\sqrt{A(t)}$  and  $M - A(t)$ .

(a) Formulate a differential equation and use it to show that the tissue grows fastest when  $A(t) = \frac{1}{3}M$ .

CAS

(b) Solve the differential equation to find an expression for  $A(t)$ . Use a computer algebra system to perform the integration.

54. According to Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation, the gravitational force on an object of mass  $m$  that has been projected vertically upward from the earth's surface is

$$F = \frac{mgR^2}{(x + R)^2}$$

where  $x = x(t)$  is the object's distance above the surface at time  $t$ ,  $R$  is the earth's radius, and  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity. Also, by Newton's Second Law,  $F = ma = m(dv/dt)$  and so

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{mgR^2}{(x + R)^2}$$

(a) Suppose a rocket is fired vertically upward with an initial velocity  $v_0$ . Let  $h$  be the maximum height above the surface reached by the object. Show that

$$v_0 = \sqrt{\frac{2gRh}{R + h}}$$

[Hint: By the Chain Rule,  $m(dv/dt) = mv(dv/dx)$ .]

(b) Calculate  $v_e = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} v_0$ . This limit is called the *escape velocity* for the earth.

(c) Use  $R = 3960$  mi and  $g = 32$  ft/s<sup>2</sup> to calculate  $v_e$  in feet per second and in miles per second.



## APPLIED PROJECT

## HOW FAST DOES A TANK DRAIN?

If water (or other liquid) drains from a tank, we expect that the flow will be greatest at first (when the water depth is greatest) and will gradually decrease as the water level decreases. But we need a more precise mathematical description of how the flow decreases in order to answer the kinds of questions that engineers ask: How long does it take for a tank to drain completely? How much water should a tank hold in order to guarantee a certain minimum water pressure for a sprinkler system?

Let  $h(t)$  and  $V(t)$  be the height and volume of water in a tank at time  $t$ . If water drains through a hole with area  $a$  at the bottom of the tank, then Torricelli's Law says that

$$\boxed{1} \quad \frac{dV}{dt} = -a\sqrt{2gh}$$

where  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity. So the rate at which water flows from the tank is proportional to the square root of the water height.

1. (a) Suppose the tank is cylindrical with height 6 ft and radius 2 ft and the hole is circular with radius 1 inch. If we take  $g = 32 \text{ ft/s}^2$ , show that  $h$  satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{1}{72}\sqrt{h}$$

- (b) Solve this equation to find the height of the water at time  $t$ , assuming the tank is full at time  $t = 0$ .  
 (c) How long will it take for the water to drain completely?
2. Because of the rotation and viscosity of the liquid, the theoretical model given by Equation 1 isn't quite accurate. Instead, the model

$$\boxed{2} \quad \frac{dh}{dt} = k\sqrt{h}$$

is often used and the constant  $k$  (which depends on the physical properties of the liquid) is determined from data concerning the draining of the tank.

- (a) Suppose that a hole is drilled in the side of a cylindrical bottle and the height  $h$  of the water (above the hole) decreases from 10 cm to 3 cm in 68 seconds. Use Equation 2 to find an expression for  $h(t)$ . Evaluate  $h(t)$  for  $t = 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60$ .  
 (b) Drill a 4-mm hole near the bottom of the cylindrical part of a two-liter plastic soft-drink bottle. Attach a strip of masking tape marked in centimeters from 0 to 10, with 0 corresponding to the top of the hole. With one finger over the hole, fill the bottle with water to the 10-cm mark. Then take your finger off the hole and record the values of  $h(t)$  for  $t = 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60$  seconds. (You will probably find that it takes 68 seconds for the level to decrease to  $h = 3$  cm.) Compare your data with the values of  $h(t)$  from part (a). How well did the model predict the actual values?

3. In many parts of the world, the water for sprinkler systems in large hotels and hospitals is supplied by gravity from cylindrical tanks on or near the roofs of the buildings. Suppose such a tank has radius 10 ft and the diameter of the outlet is 2.5 inches. An engineer has to guarantee that the water pressure will be at least  $2160 \text{ lb/ft}^2$  for a period of 10 minutes. (When a fire happens, the electrical system might fail and it could take up to 10 minutes for the emergency generator and fire pump to be activated.) What height should the engineer specify for the tank in order to make such a guarantee? (Use the fact that the water pressure at a depth of  $d$  feet is  $P = 62.5d$ . See Section 8.3.)

Problem 2(b) is best done as a classroom demonstration or as a group project with three students in each group: a timekeeper to call out seconds, a bottle keeper to estimate the height every 10 seconds, and a record keeper to record these values.



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4. Not all water tanks are shaped like cylinders. Suppose a tank has cross-sectional area  $A(h)$  at height  $h$ . Then the volume of water up to height  $h$  is  $V = \int_0^h A(u) du$  and so the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus gives  $dV/dh = A(h)$ . It follows that

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dh} \frac{dh}{dt} = A(h) \frac{dh}{dt}$$

and so Torricelli's Law becomes

$$A(h) \frac{dh}{dt} = -a\sqrt{2gh}$$

- (a) Suppose the tank has the shape of a sphere with radius 2 m and is initially half full of water. If the radius of the circular hole is 1 cm and we take  $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$ , show that  $h$  satisfies the differential equation

$$(4h - h^2) \frac{dh}{dt} = -0.0001\sqrt{20h}$$

- (b) How long will it take for the water to drain completely?

## APPLIED PROJECT

## WHICH IS FASTER, GOING UP OR COMING DOWN?

In modeling force due to air resistance, various functions have been used, depending on the physical characteristics and speed of the ball. Here we use a linear model,  $-pv$ , but a quadratic model ( $-pv^2$  on the way up and  $pv^2$  on the way down) is another possibility for higher speeds (see Exercise 50 in Section 9.3). For a golf ball, experiments have shown that a good model is  $-pv^{1.3}$  going up and  $p|v|^{1.3}$  coming down. But no matter which force function  $-f(v)$  is used [where  $f(v) > 0$  for  $v > 0$  and  $f(v) < 0$  for  $v < 0$ ], the answer to the question remains the same. See F. Brauer, "What Goes Up Must Come Down, Eventually," *Amer. Math. Monthly* 108 (2001), pp. 437–440.

Suppose you throw a ball into the air. Do you think it takes longer to reach its maximum height or to fall back to earth from its maximum height? We will solve the problem in this project but, before getting started, think about that situation and make a guess based on your physical intuition.

1. A ball with mass  $m$  is projected vertically upward from the earth's surface with a positive initial velocity  $v_0$ . We assume the forces acting on the ball are the force of gravity and a retarding force of air resistance with direction opposite to the direction of motion and with magnitude  $p|v(t)|$ , where  $p$  is a positive constant and  $v(t)$  is the velocity of the ball at time  $t$ . In both the ascent and the descent, the total force acting on the ball is  $-pv - mg$ . [During ascent,  $v(t)$  is positive and the resistance acts downward; during descent,  $v(t)$  is negative and the resistance acts upward.] So, by Newton's Second Law, the equation of motion is

$$mv' = -pv - mg$$

Solve this differential equation to show that the velocity is

$$v(t) = \left( v_0 + \frac{mg}{p} \right) e^{-pt/m} - \frac{mg}{p}$$

2. Show that the height of the ball, until it hits the ground, is

$$y(t) = \left( v_0 + \frac{mg}{p} \right) \frac{m}{p} (1 - e^{-pt/m}) - \frac{mgt}{p}$$




Graphing calculator or computer required

3. Let  $t_1$  be the time that the ball takes to reach its maximum height. Show that

$$t_1 = \frac{m}{p} \ln \left( \frac{mg + pv_0}{mg} \right)$$

Find this time for a ball with mass 1 kg and initial velocity 20 m/s. Assume the air resistance is  $\frac{1}{10}$  of the speed.

-  4. Let  $t_2$  be the time at which the ball falls back to earth. For the particular ball in Problem 3, estimate  $t_2$  by using a graph of the height function  $y(t)$ . Which is faster, going up or coming down?
5. In general, it's not easy to find  $t_2$  because it's impossible to solve the equation  $y(t) = 0$  explicitly. We can, however, use an indirect method to determine whether ascent or descent is faster: we determine whether  $y(2t_1)$  is positive or negative. Show that

$$y(2t_1) = \frac{m^2g}{p^2} \left( x - \frac{1}{x} - 2 \ln x \right)$$

where  $x = e^{pt_1/m}$ . Then show that  $x > 1$  and the function

$$f(x) = x - \frac{1}{x} - 2 \ln x$$

is increasing for  $x > 1$ . Use this result to decide whether  $y(2t_1)$  is positive or negative. What can you conclude? Is ascent or descent faster?

## 9.4 Models for Population Growth

In this section we investigate differential equations that are used to model population growth: the law of natural growth, the logistic equation, and several others.

### The Law of Natural Growth

One of the models for population growth that we considered in Section 9.1 was based on the assumption that the population grows at a rate proportional to the size of the population:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP$$

Is that a reasonable assumption? Suppose we have a population (of bacteria, for instance) with size  $P = 1000$  and at a certain time it is growing at a rate of  $P' = 300$  bacteria per hour. Now let's take another 1000 bacteria of the same type and put them with the first population. Each half of the combined population was previously growing at a rate of 300 bacteria per hour. We would expect the total population of 2000 to increase at a rate of 600 bacteria per hour initially (provided there's enough room and nutrition). So if we double the size, we double the growth rate. It seems reasonable that the growth rate should be proportional to the size.

In general, if  $P(t)$  is the value of a quantity  $y$  at time  $t$  and if the rate of change of  $P$  with respect to  $t$  is proportional to its size  $P(t)$  at any time, then

1

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP$$

where  $k$  is a constant. Equation 1 is sometimes called the **law of natural growth**. If  $k$  is positive, then the population increases; if  $k$  is negative, it decreases.

Because Equation 1 is a separable differential equation, we can solve it by the methods of Section 9.3:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{dP}{P} &= \int k dt \\ \ln |P| &= kt + C \\ |P| &= e^{kt+C} = e^C e^{kt} \\ P &= Ae^{kt}\end{aligned}$$

where  $A (= \pm e^C \text{ or } 0)$  is an arbitrary constant. To see the significance of the constant  $A$ , we observe that

$$P(0) = Ae^{k \cdot 0} = A$$

Therefore  $A$  is the initial value of the function.

**2** The solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \quad P(0) = P_0$$

is

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{kt}$$

Examples and exercises on the use of **2** are given in Section 6.5.

Another way of writing Equation 1 is

$$\frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} = k$$

which says that the **relative growth rate** (the growth rate divided by the population size) is constant. Then **2** says that a population with constant relative growth rate must grow exponentially.

We can account for emigration (or “harvesting”) from a population by modifying Equation 1: If the rate of emigration is a constant  $m$ , then the rate of change of the population is modeled by the differential equation

$$\mathbf{3} \quad \frac{dP}{dt} = kP - m$$

See Exercise 15 for the solution and consequences of Equation 3.

### The Logistic Model

As we discussed in Section 9.1, a population often increases exponentially in its early stages but levels off eventually and approaches its carrying capacity because of limited resources. If  $P(t)$  is the size of the population at time  $t$ , we assume that

$$\frac{dP}{dt} \approx kP \quad \text{if } P \text{ is small}$$

This says that the growth rate is initially close to being proportional to size. In other words, the relative growth rate is almost constant when the population is small. But we also want to reflect the fact that the relative growth rate decreases as the population  $P$  increases and becomes negative if  $P$  ever exceeds its **carrying capacity**  $M$ , the maximum population that the environment is capable of sustaining in the long run. The simplest expression for the relative growth rate that incorporates these assumptions is

$$\frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} = k \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right)$$

Multiplying by  $P$ , we obtain the model for population growth known as the **logistic differential equation**:

4

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right)$$

Notice from Equation 4 that if  $P$  is small compared with  $M$ , then  $P/M$  is close to 0 and so  $dP/dt \approx kP$ . However, if  $P \rightarrow M$  (the population approaches its carrying capacity), then  $P/M \rightarrow 1$ , so  $dP/dt \rightarrow 0$ . We can deduce information about whether solutions increase or decrease directly from Equation 4. If the population  $P$  lies between 0 and  $M$ , then the right side of the equation is positive, so  $dP/dt > 0$  and the population increases. But if the population exceeds the carrying capacity ( $P > M$ ), then  $1 - P/M$  is negative, so  $dP/dt < 0$  and the population decreases.

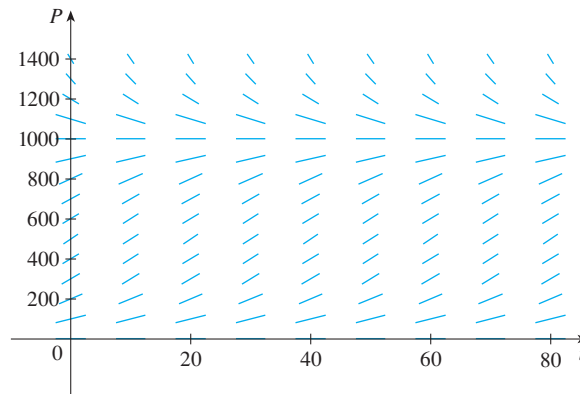
Let's start our more detailed analysis of the logistic differential equation by looking at a direction field.

**V EXAMPLE 1** Draw a direction field for the logistic equation with  $k = 0.08$  and carrying capacity  $M = 1000$ . What can you deduce about the solutions?

**SOLUTION** In this case the logistic differential equation is

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.08P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{1000} \right)$$

A direction field for this equation is shown in Figure 1. We show only the first quadrant because negative populations aren't meaningful and we are interested only in what happens after  $t = 0$ .

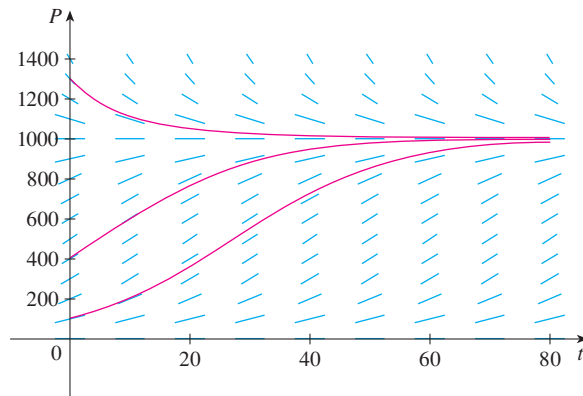


**FIGURE 1**  
Direction field for the logistic equation in Example 1

The logistic equation is autonomous ( $dP/dt$  depends only on  $P$ , not on  $t$ ), so the slopes are the same along any horizontal line. As expected, the slopes are positive for  $0 < P < 1000$  and negative for  $P > 1000$ .

The slopes are small when  $P$  is close to 0 or 1000 (the carrying capacity). Notice that the solutions move away from the equilibrium solution  $P = 0$  and move toward the equilibrium solution  $P = 1000$ .

In Figure 2 we use the direction field to sketch solution curves with initial populations  $P(0) = 100$ ,  $P(0) = 400$ , and  $P(0) = 1300$ . Notice that solution curves that start below  $P = 1000$  are increasing and those that start above  $P = 1000$  are decreasing. The slopes are greatest when  $P \approx 500$  and therefore the solution curves that start below  $P = 1000$  have inflection points when  $P \approx 500$ . In fact we can prove that all solution curves that start below  $P = 500$  have an inflection point when  $P$  is exactly 500. (See Exercise 11.)



**FIGURE 2**  
Solution curves for the logistic equation in Example 1

The logistic equation  $\boxed{4}$  is separable and so we can solve it explicitly using the method of Section 9.3. Since

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right)$$

we have

$$\boxed{5} \quad \int \frac{dP}{P(1 - P/M)} = \int k \, dt$$

To evaluate the integral on the left side, we write

$$\frac{1}{P(1 - P/M)} = \frac{M}{P(M - P)}$$

Using partial fractions (see Section 7.4), we get

$$\frac{M}{P(M - P)} = \frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{M - P}$$

This enables us to rewrite Equation 5:

$$\int \left( \frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{M-P} \right) dP = \int k dt$$

$$\ln |P| - \ln |M-P| = kt + C$$

$$\ln \left| \frac{M-P}{P} \right| = -kt - C$$

$$\left| \frac{M-P}{P} \right| = e^{-kt-C} = e^{-C} e^{-kt}$$

6

$$\frac{M-P}{P} = Ae^{-kt}$$

where  $A = \pm e^{-C}$ . Solving Equation 6 for  $P$ , we get

$$\frac{M}{P} - 1 = Ae^{-kt} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{P}{M} = \frac{1}{1 + Ae^{-kt}}$$

so

$$P = \frac{M}{1 + Ae^{-kt}}$$

We find the value of  $A$  by putting  $t = 0$  in Equation 6. If  $t = 0$ , then  $P = P_0$  (the initial population), so

$$\frac{M - P_0}{P_0} = Ae^0 = A$$

Thus the solution to the logistic equation is

7

$$P(t) = \frac{M}{1 + Ae^{-kt}} \quad \text{where } A = \frac{M - P_0}{P_0}$$

Using the expression for  $P(t)$  in Equation 7, we see that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t) = M$$

which is to be expected.

**EXAMPLE 2** Write the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.08P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{1000} \right) \quad P(0) = 100$$

and use it to find the population sizes  $P(40)$  and  $P(80)$ . At what time does the population reach 900?

**SOLUTION** The differential equation is a logistic equation with  $k = 0.08$ , carrying capacity  $M = 1000$ , and initial population  $P_0 = 100$ . So Equation 7 gives the



population at time  $t$  as

$$P(t) = \frac{1000}{1 + Ae^{-0.08t}} \quad \text{where } A = \frac{1000 - 100}{100} = 9$$

Thus 
$$P(t) = \frac{1000}{1 + 9e^{-0.08t}}$$

So the population sizes when  $t = 40$  and  $80$  are

$$P(40) = \frac{1000}{1 + 9e^{-3.2}} \approx 731.6 \quad P(80) = \frac{1000}{1 + 9e^{-6.4}} \approx 985.3$$

The population reaches 900 when

$$\frac{1000}{1 + 9e^{-0.08t}} = 900$$

Solving this equation for  $t$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 9e^{-0.08t} &= \frac{10}{9} \\ e^{-0.08t} &= \frac{1}{81} \\ -0.08t &= \ln \frac{1}{81} = -\ln 81 \\ t &= \frac{\ln 81}{0.08} \approx 54.9 \end{aligned}$$

Compare the solution curve in Figure 3 with the lowest solution curve we drew from the direction field in Figure 2.

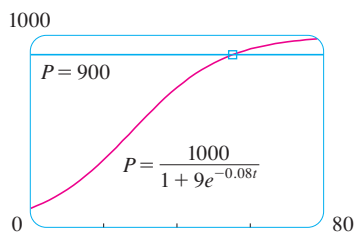


FIGURE 3

So the population reaches 900 when  $t$  is approximately 55. As a check on our work, we graph the population curve in Figure 3 and observe where it intersects the line  $P = 900$ . The cursor indicates that  $t \approx 55$ .

### Comparison of the Natural Growth and Logistic Models

In the 1930s the biologist G. F. Gause conducted an experiment with the protozoan *Paramecium* and used a logistic equation to model his data. The table gives his daily count of the population of protozoa. He estimated the initial relative growth rate to be 0.7944 and the carrying capacity to be 64.

$t$ (days)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
$P$ (observed)	2	3	22	16	39	52	54	47	50	76	69	51	57	70	53	59	57

**V EXAMPLE 3** Find the exponential and logistic models for Gause's data. Compare the predicted values with the observed values and comment on the fit.

**SOLUTION** Given the relative growth rate  $k = 0.7944$  and the initial population  $P_0 = 2$ , the exponential model is

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{kt} = 2e^{0.7944t}$$

Gause used the same value of  $k$  for his logistic model. [This is reasonable because  $P_0 = 2$  is small compared with the carrying capacity ( $M = 64$ ). The equation

$$\frac{1}{P_0} \frac{dP}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = k \left( 1 - \frac{2}{64} \right) \approx k$$

shows that the value of  $k$  for the logistic model is very close to the value for the exponential model.]

Then the solution of the logistic equation in Equation 7 gives

$$P(t) = \frac{M}{1 + Ae^{-kt}} = \frac{64}{1 + Ae^{-0.7944t}}$$

where

$$A = \frac{M - P_0}{P_0} = \frac{64 - 2}{2} = 31$$

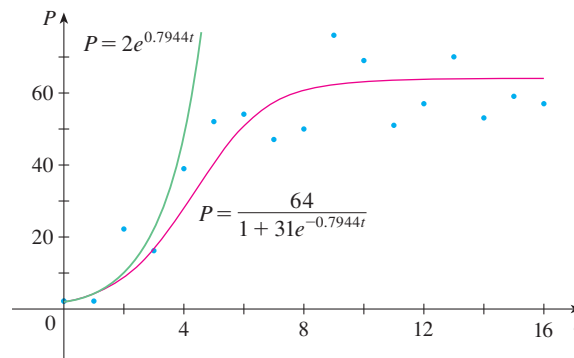
So

$$P(t) = \frac{64}{1 + 31e^{-0.7944t}}$$

We use these equations to calculate the predicted values (rounded to the nearest integer) and compare them in the following table.

$t$ (days)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
$P$ (observed)	2	3	22	16	39	52	54	47	50	76	69	51	57	70	53	59	57
$P$ (logistic model)	2	4	9	17	28	40	51	57	61	62	63	64	64	64	64	64	64
$P$ (exponential model)	2	4	10	22	48	106	...										

We notice from the table and from the graph in Figure 4 that for the first three or four days the exponential model gives results comparable to those of the more sophisticated logistic model. For  $t \geq 5$ , however, the exponential model is hopelessly inaccurate, but the logistic model fits the observations reasonably well.

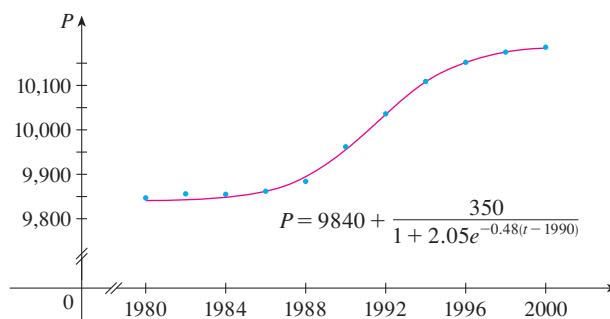


**FIGURE 4**  
The exponential and logistic models for the *Paramecium* data

Many countries that formerly experienced exponential growth are now finding that their rates of population growth are declining and the logistic model provides a better model.

$t$	$B(t)$	$t$	$B(t)$
1980	9,847	1992	10,036
1982	9,856	1994	10,109
1984	9,855	1996	10,152
1986	9,862	1998	10,175
1988	9,884	2000	10,186
1990	9,962		

The table in the margin shows midyear values of  $B(t)$ , the population of Belgium, in thousands, at time  $t$ , from 1980 to 2000. Figure 5 shows these data points together with a shifted logistic function obtained from a calculator with the ability to fit a logistic function to these points by regression. We see that the logistic model provides a very good fit.



**FIGURE 5**  
Logistic model for  
the population of Belgium

### Other Models for Population Growth

The Law of Natural Growth and the logistic differential equation are not the only equations that have been proposed to model population growth. In Exercise 20 we look at the Gompertz growth function and in Exercises 21 and 22 we investigate seasonal-growth models.

Two of the other models are modifications of the logistic model. The differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right) - c$$

has been used to model populations that are subject to harvesting of one sort or another. (Think of a population of fish being caught at a constant rate.) This equation is explored in Exercises 17 and 18.

For some species there is a minimum population level  $m$  below which the species tends to become extinct. (Adults may not be able to find suitable mates.) Such populations have been modeled by the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{m}{P} \right)$$

where the extra factor,  $1 - m/P$ , takes into account the consequences of a sparse population (see Exercise 19).

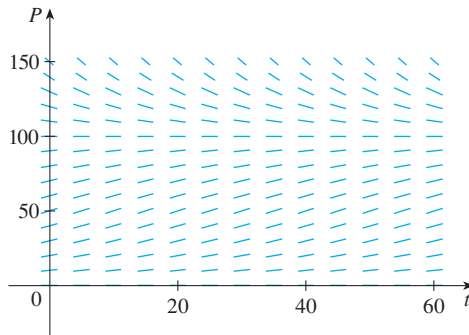
## 9.4 Exercises

1. Suppose that a population develops according to the logistic equation


$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.05P - 0.0005P^2$$

where  $t$  is measured in weeks.

- (a) What is the carrying capacity? What is the value of  $k$ ?  
 (b) A direction field for this equation is shown. Where are the slopes close to 0? Where are they largest? Which solutions are increasing? Which solutions are decreasing?



- (c) Use the direction field to sketch solutions for initial populations of 20, 40, 60, 80, 120, and 140. What do these solutions have in common? How do they differ? Which solutions have inflection points? At what population levels do they occur?  
 (d) What are the equilibrium solutions? How are the other solutions related to these solutions?

-  2. Suppose that a population grows according to a logistic model with carrying capacity 6000 and  $k = 0.0015$  per year.  
 (a) Write the logistic differential equation for these data.  
 (b) Draw a direction field (either by hand or with a computer algebra system). What does it tell you about the solution curves?  
 (c) Use the direction field to sketch the solution curves for initial populations of 1000, 2000, 4000, and 8000. What can you say about the concavity of these curves? What is the significance of the inflection points?  
 (d) Program a calculator or computer to use Euler's method with step size  $h = 1$  to estimate the population after 50 years if the initial population is 1000.  
 (e) If the initial population is 1000, write a formula for the population after  $t$  years. Use it to find the population after 50 years and compare with your estimate in part (d).  
 (f) Graph the solution in part (e) and compare with the solution curve you sketched in part (c).

3. The Pacific halibut fishery has been modeled by the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky \left( 1 - \frac{y}{M} \right)$$

where  $y(t)$  is the biomass (the total mass of the members of the population) in kilograms at time  $t$  (measured in years), the carrying capacity is estimated to be  $M = 8 \times 10^7$  kg, and  $k = 0.71$  per year.

- (a) If  $y(0) = 2 \times 10^7$  kg, find the biomass a year later.  
 (b) How long will it take for the biomass to reach  $4 \times 10^7$  kg?

4. Suppose a population  $P(t)$  satisfies

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.4P - 0.001P^2 \quad P(0) = 50$$

where  $t$  is measured in years.

- (a) What is the carrying capacity?  
 (b) What is  $P'(0)$ ?  
 (c) When will the population reach 50% of the carrying capacity?

5. Suppose a population grows according to a logistic model with initial population 1000 and carrying capacity 10,000. If the population grows to 2500 after one year, what will the population be after another three years?

6. The table gives the number of yeast cells in a new laboratory culture.

Time (hours)	Yeast cells	Time (hours)	Yeast cells
0	18	10	509
2	39	12	597
4	80	14	640
6	171	16	664
8	336	18	672

- (a) Plot the data and use the plot to estimate the carrying capacity for the yeast population.  
 (b) Use the data to estimate the initial relative growth rate.  
 (c) Find both an exponential model and a logistic model for these data.  
 (d) Compare the predicted values with the observed values, both in a table and with graphs. Comment on how well your models fit the data.  
 (e) Use your logistic model to estimate the number of yeast cells after 7 hours.

7. The population of the world was about 5.3 billion in 1990. Birth rates in the 1990s ranged from 35 to 40 million per year and death rates ranged from 15 to 20 million per year. Let's assume that the carrying capacity for world population is 100 billion.

- (a) Write the logistic differential equation for these data. (Because the initial population is small compared to the

carrying capacity, you can take  $k$  to be an estimate of the initial relative growth rate.)

- (b) Use the logistic model to estimate the world population in the year 2000 and compare with the actual population of 6.1 billion.
- (c) Use the logistic model to predict the world population in the years 2100 and 2500.
- (d) What are your predictions if the carrying capacity is 50 billion?
8. (a) Make a guess as to the carrying capacity for the US population. Use it and the fact that the population was 250 million in 1990 to formulate a logistic model for the US population.
- (b) Determine the value of  $k$  in your model by using the fact that the population in 2000 was 275 million.
- (c) Use your model to predict the US population in the years 2100 and 2200.
- (d) Use your model to predict the year in which the US population will exceed 350 million.
9. One model for the spread of a rumor is that the rate of spread is proportional to the product of the fraction  $y$  of the population who have heard the rumor and the fraction who have not heard the rumor.
- (a) Write a differential equation that is satisfied by  $y$ .
- (b) Solve the differential equation.
- (c) A small town has 1000 inhabitants. At 8 AM, 80 people have heard a rumor. By noon half the town has heard it. At what time will 90% of the population have heard the rumor?
10. Biologists stocked a lake with 400 fish and estimated the carrying capacity (the maximal population for the fish of that species in that lake) to be 10,000. The number of fish tripled in the first year.
- (a) Assuming that the size of the fish population satisfies the logistic equation, find an expression for the size of the population after  $t$  years.
- (b) How long will it take for the population to increase to 5000?
11. (a) Show that if  $P$  satisfies the logistic equation [4], then

$$\frac{d^2P}{dt^2} = k^2P \left(1 - \frac{P}{M}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2P}{M}\right)$$

- (b) Deduce that a population grows fastest when it reaches half its carrying capacity.

12. For a fixed value of  $M$  (say  $M = 10$ ), the family of logistic functions given by Equation 7 depends on the initial value  $P_0$  and the proportionality constant  $k$ . Graph several members of this family. How does the graph change when  $P_0$  varies? How does it change when  $k$  varies?

13. The table gives the midyear population of Japan, in thousands, from 1960 to 2005.

Year	Population	Year	Population
1960	94,092	1985	120,754
1965	98,883	1990	123,537
1970	104,345	1995	125,341
1975	111,573	2000	126,700
1980	116,807	2005	127,417

Use a graphing calculator to fit both an exponential function and a logistic function to these data. Graph the data points and both functions, and comment on the accuracy of the models. [Hint: Subtract 94,000 from each of the population figures. Then, after obtaining a model from your calculator, add 94,000 to get your final model. It might be helpful to choose  $t = 0$  to correspond to 1960 or 1980.]

14. The table gives the midyear population of Spain, in thousands, from 1955 to 2000.

Year	Population	Year	Population
1955	29,319	1980	37,488
1960	30,641	1985	38,535
1965	32,085	1990	39,351
1970	33,876	1995	39,750
1975	35,564	2000	40,016

Use a graphing calculator to fit both an exponential function and a logistic function to these data. Graph the data points and both functions, and comment on the accuracy of the models. [Hint: Subtract 29,000 from each of the population figures. Then, after obtaining a model from your calculator, add 29,000 to get your final model. It might be helpful to choose  $t = 0$  to correspond to 1955 or 1975.]

15. Consider a population  $P = P(t)$  with constant relative birth and death rates  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , respectively, and a constant emigration rate  $m$ , where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $m$  are positive constants. Assume that  $\alpha > \beta$ . Then the rate of change of the population at time  $t$  is modeled by the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP - m \quad \text{where } k = \alpha - \beta$$

- (a) Find the solution of this equation that satisfies the initial condition  $P(0) = P_0$ .
- (b) What condition on  $m$  will lead to an exponential expansion of the population?
- (c) What condition on  $m$  will result in a constant population? A population decline?
- (d) In 1847, the population of Ireland was about 8 million and the difference between the relative birth and death rates was 1.6% of the population. Because of the potato famine in the 1840s and 1850s, about 210,000 inhabitants

per year emigrated from Ireland. Was the population expanding or declining at that time?


16. Let  $c$  be a positive number. A differential equation of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky^{1+c}$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant, is called a *doomsday equation* because the exponent in the expression  $ky^{1+c}$  is larger than the exponent 1 for natural growth.

- (a) Determine the solution that satisfies the initial condition  $y(0) = y_0$ .  
 (b) Show that there is a finite time  $t = T$  (doomsday) such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} y(t) = \infty$ .  
 (c) An especially prolific breed of rabbits has the growth term  $My^{1.01}$ . If 2 such rabbits breed initially and the warren has 16 rabbits after three months, then when is doomsday?
17. Let's modify the logistic differential equation of Example 1 as follows:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.08P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{1000} \right) - 15$$

- (a) Suppose  $P(t)$  represents a fish population at time  $t$ , where  $t$  is measured in weeks. Explain the meaning of the final term in the equation ( $-15$ ).  
 (b) Draw a direction field for this differential equation.  
 (c) What are the equilibrium solutions?  
 (d) Use the direction field to sketch several solution curves. Describe what happens to the fish population for various initial populations.
-  (e) Solve this differential equation explicitly, either by using partial fractions or with a computer algebra system. Use the initial populations 200 and 300. Graph the solutions and compare with your sketches in part (d).

-  18. Consider the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.08P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{1000} \right) - c$$

as a model for a fish population, where  $t$  is measured in weeks and  $c$  is a constant.

- (a) Use a CAS to draw direction fields for various values of  $c$ .  
 (b) From your direction fields in part (a), determine the values of  $c$  for which there is at least one equilibrium solution. For what values of  $c$  does the fish population always die out?  
 (c) Use the differential equation to prove what you discovered graphically in part (b).  
 (d) What would you recommend for a limit to the weekly catch of this fish population?

19. There is considerable evidence to support the theory that for some species there is a minimum population  $m$  such that the species will become extinct if the size of the population falls below  $m$ . This condition can be incorporated into the logistic equation by introducing the factor  $(1 - m/P)$ . Thus the modified logistic model is given by the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{m}{P} \right)$$

- (a) Use the differential equation to show that any solution is increasing if  $m < P < M$  and decreasing if  $0 < P < m$ .  
 (b) For the case where  $k = 0.08$ ,  $M = 1000$ , and  $m = 200$ , draw a direction field and use it to sketch several solution curves. Describe what happens to the population for various initial populations. What are the equilibrium solutions?  
 (c) Solve the differential equation explicitly, either by using partial fractions or with a computer algebra system. Use the initial population  $P_0$ .  
 (d) Use the solution in part (c) to show that if  $P_0 < m$ , then the species will become extinct. [Hint: Show that the numerator in your expression for  $P(t)$  is 0 for some value of  $t$ .]

20. Another model for a growth function for a limited population is given by the **Gompertz function**, which is a solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = c \ln \left( \frac{M}{P} \right) P$$

where  $c$  is a constant and  $M$  is the carrying capacity.

- (a) Solve this differential equation.  
 (b) Compute  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t)$ .  
 (c) Graph the Gompertz growth function for  $M = 1000$ ,  $P_0 = 100$ , and  $c = 0.05$ , and compare it with the logistic function in Example 2. What are the similarities? What are the differences?  
 (d) We know from Exercise 11 that the logistic function grows fastest when  $P = M/2$ . Use the Gompertz differential equation to show that the Gompertz function grows fastest when  $P = M/e$ .

21. In a **seasonal-growth model**, a periodic function of time is introduced to account for seasonal variations in the rate of growth. Such variations could, for example, be caused by seasonal changes in the availability of food.

- (a) Find the solution of the seasonal-growth model


$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \cos(rt - \phi) \quad P(0) = P_0$$



- where  $k$ ,  $r$ , and  $\phi$  are positive constants.  
 (b) By graphing the solution for several values of  $k$ ,  $r$ , and  $\phi$ , explain how the values of  $k$ ,  $r$ , and  $\phi$  affect the solution. What can you say about  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t)$ ?

22. Suppose we alter the differential equation in Exercise 21 as follows:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \cos^2(rt - \phi) \quad P(0) = P_0$$

- (a) Solve this differential equation with the help of a table of integrals or a CAS.
-  (b) Graph the solution for several values of  $k$ ,  $r$ , and  $\phi$ . How do the values of  $k$ ,  $r$ , and  $\phi$  affect the solution? What can you say about  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t)$  in this case?

23. Graphs of logistic functions (Figures 2 and 3) look suspiciously similar to the graph of the hyperbolic tangent function (Figure 3 in Section 6.7). Explain the similarity by showing that the logistic function given by Equation 7 can be written as

$$P(t) = \frac{1}{2}M \left[ 1 + \tanh\left(\frac{1}{2}k(t - c)\right) \right]$$

where  $c = (\ln A)/k$ . Thus the logistic function is really just a shifted hyperbolic tangent.

## 9.5 Linear Equations

A first-order **linear** differential equation is one that can be put into the form

$$\boxed{1} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)$$

where  $P$  and  $Q$  are continuous functions on a given interval. This type of equation occurs frequently in various sciences, as we will see.

An example of a linear equation is  $xy' + y = 2x$  because, for  $x \neq 0$ , it can be written in the form

$$\boxed{2} \quad y' + \frac{1}{x}y = 2$$

Notice that this differential equation is not separable because it's impossible to factor the expression for  $y'$  as a function of  $x$  times a function of  $y$ . But we can still solve the equation by noticing, by the Product Rule, that

$$xy' + y = (xy)'$$

and so we can rewrite the equation as

$$(xy)' = 2x$$

If we now integrate both sides of this equation, we get

$$xy = x^2 + C \quad \text{or} \quad y = x + \frac{C}{x}$$

If we had been given the differential equation in the form of Equation 2, we would have had to take the preliminary step of multiplying each side of the equation by  $x$ .

It turns out that every first-order linear differential equation can be solved in a similar fashion by multiplying both sides of Equation 1 by a suitable function  $I(x)$  called an *integrating factor*. We try to find  $I$  so that the left side of Equation 1, when multiplied by  $I(x)$ , becomes the derivative of the product  $I(x)y$ :

$$\boxed{3} \quad I(x)(y' + P(x)y) = (I(x)y)'$$

If we can find such a function  $I$ , then Equation 1 becomes

$$(I(x)y)' = I(x)Q(x)$$



Integrating both sides, we would have

$$I(x)y = \int I(x)Q(x) dx + C$$

so the solution would be

$$\boxed{4} \quad y(x) = \frac{1}{I(x)} \left[ \int I(x)Q(x) dx + C \right]$$

To find such an  $I$ , we expand Equation 3 and cancel terms:

$$\begin{aligned} I(x)y' + I(x)P(x)y &= (I(x)y)' = I'(x)y + I(x)y' \\ I(x)P(x) &= I'(x) \end{aligned}$$

This is a separable differential equation for  $I$ , which we solve as follows:

$$\int \frac{dI}{I} = \int P(x) dx$$

$$\ln |I| = \int P(x) dx$$

$$I = Ae^{\int P(x) dx}$$

where  $A = \pm e^C$ . We are looking for a particular integrating factor, not the most general one, so we take  $A = 1$  and use

$$\boxed{5} \quad I(x) = e^{\int P(x) dx}$$

Thus a formula for the general solution to Equation 1 is provided by Equation 4, where  $I$  is given by Equation 5. Instead of memorizing this formula, however, we just remember the form of the integrating factor.

To solve the linear differential equation  $y' + P(x)y = Q(x)$ , multiply both sides by the **integrating factor**  $I(x) = e^{\int P(x) dx}$  and integrate both sides.

**V EXAMPLE 1** Solve the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} + 3x^2y = 6x^2$ .

**SOLUTION** The given equation is linear since it has the form of Equation 1 with  $P(x) = 3x^2$  and  $Q(x) = 6x^2$ . An integrating factor is

$$I(x) = e^{\int 3x^2 dx} = e^{x^3}$$

Multiplying both sides of the differential equation by  $e^{x^3}$ , we get

$$e^{x^3} \frac{dy}{dx} + 3x^2 e^{x^3} y = 6x^2 e^{x^3}$$

or

$$\frac{d}{dx} (e^{x^3} y) = 6x^2 e^{x^3}$$

Figure 1 shows the graphs of several members of the family of solutions in Example 1. Notice that they all approach 2 as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

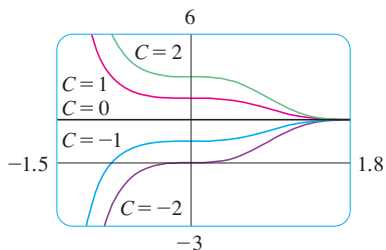


FIGURE 1

Integrating both sides, we have

$$e^{x^3} y = \int 6x^2 e^{x^3} dx = 2e^{x^3} + C$$

$$y = 2 + Ce^{-x^3}$$

**V EXAMPLE 2** Find the solution of the initial-value problem

$$x^2 y' + xy = 1 \quad x > 0 \quad y(1) = 2$$

**SOLUTION** We must first divide both sides by the coefficient of  $y'$  to put the differential equation into standard form:

$$\boxed{6} \quad y' + \frac{1}{x}y = \frac{1}{x^2} \quad x > 0$$

The integrating factor is

$$I(x) = e^{\int (1/x) dx} = e^{\ln x} = x$$

Multiplication of Equation 6 by  $x$  gives

$$xy' + y = \frac{1}{x} \quad \text{or} \quad (xy)' = \frac{1}{x}$$

Then

$$xy = \int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln x + C$$

and so

$$y = \frac{\ln x + C}{x}$$

Since  $y(1) = 2$ , we have

$$2 = \frac{\ln 1 + C}{1} = C$$

Therefore the solution to the initial-value problem is

$$y = \frac{\ln x + 2}{x}$$

The solution of the initial-value problem in Example 2 is shown in Figure 2.

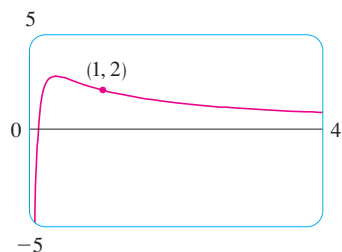


FIGURE 2

**EXAMPLE 3** Solve  $y' + 2xy = 1$ .

**SOLUTION** The given equation is in the standard form for a linear equation. Multiplying by the integrating factor

$$e^{\int 2x dx} = e^{x^2}$$

we get

$$e^{x^2} y' + 2xe^{x^2} y = e^{x^2}$$

or

$$(e^{x^2} y)' = e^{x^2}$$

Therefore

$$e^{x^2} y = \int e^{x^2} dx + C$$

Even though the solutions of the differential equation in Example 3 are expressed in terms of an integral, they can still be graphed by a computer algebra system (Figure 3).

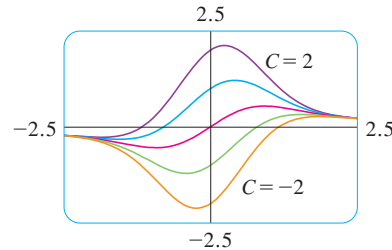


FIGURE 3

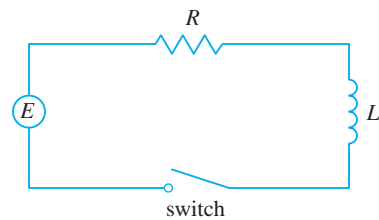


FIGURE 4

The differential equation in Example 4 is both linear and separable, so an alternative method is to solve it as a separable equation (Example 4 in Section 9.3). If we replace the battery by a generator, however, we get an equation that is linear but not separable (Example 5).

Recall from Section 7.5 that  $\int e^{x^2} dx$  can't be expressed in terms of elementary functions. Nonetheless, it's a perfectly good function and we can leave the answer as

$$y = e^{-x^2} \int e^{x^2} dx + Ce^{-x^2}$$

Another way of writing the solution is

$$y = e^{-x^2} \int_0^x e^{t^2} dt + Ce^{-x^2}$$

(Any number can be chosen for the lower limit of integration.)

### Application to Electric Circuits

In Section 9.2 we considered the simple electric circuit shown in Figure 4: An electromotive force (usually a battery or generator) produces a voltage of  $E(t)$  volts (V) and a current of  $I(t)$  amperes (A) at time  $t$ . The circuit also contains a resistor with a resistance of  $R$  ohms ( $\Omega$ ) and an inductor with an inductance of  $L$  henries (H).

Ohm's Law gives the drop in voltage due to the resistor as  $RI$ . The voltage drop due to the inductor is  $L(dI/dt)$ . One of Kirchhoff's laws says that the sum of the voltage drops is equal to the supplied voltage  $E(t)$ . Thus we have

$$\boxed{7} \quad L \frac{dI}{dt} + RI = E(t)$$

which is a first-order linear differential equation. The solution gives the current  $I$  at time  $t$ .

**V EXAMPLE 4** Suppose that in the simple circuit of Figure 4 the resistance is  $12 \Omega$  and the inductance is  $4$  H. If a battery gives a constant voltage of  $60$  V and the switch is closed when  $t = 0$  so the current starts with  $I(0) = 0$ , find (a)  $I(t)$ , (b) the current after  $1$  s, and (c) the limiting value of the current.

#### SOLUTION

(a) If we put  $L = 4$ ,  $R = 12$ , and  $E(t) = 60$  in Equation 7, we obtain the initial-value problem

$$4 \frac{dI}{dt} + 12I = 60 \quad I(0) = 0$$

or

$$\frac{dI}{dt} + 3I = 15 \quad I(0) = 0$$

Multiplying by the integrating factor  $e^{\int 3 dt} = e^{3t}$ , we get

$$e^{3t} \frac{dI}{dt} + 3e^{3t}I = 15e^{3t}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(e^{3t}I) = 15e^{3t}$$

$$e^{3t}I = \int 15e^{3t} dt = 5e^{3t} + C$$

$$I(t) = 5 + Ce^{-3t}$$

Figure 5 shows how the current in Example 4 approaches its limiting value.

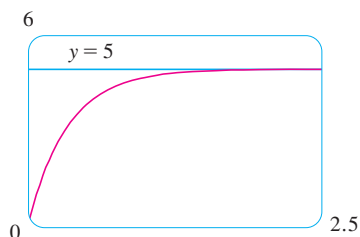


FIGURE 5

Since  $I(0) = 0$ , we have  $5 + C = 0$ , so  $C = -5$  and

$$I(t) = 5(1 - e^{-3t})$$

(b) After 1 second the current is

$$I(1) = 5(1 - e^{-3}) \approx 4.75 \text{ A}$$

(c) The limiting value of the current is given by

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} 5(1 - e^{-3t}) = 5 - 5 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-3t} = 5 - 0 = 5$$

**EXAMPLE 5** Suppose that the resistance and inductance remain as in Example 4 but, instead of the battery, we use a generator that produces a variable voltage of  $E(t) = 60 \sin 30t$  volts. Find  $I(t)$ .

**SOLUTION** This time the differential equation becomes

$$4 \frac{dI}{dt} + 12I = 60 \sin 30t \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dI}{dt} + 3I = 15 \sin 30t$$

The same integrating factor  $e^{3t}$  gives

$$\frac{d}{dt}(e^{3t}I) = e^{3t} \frac{dI}{dt} + 3e^{3t}I = 15e^{3t} \sin 30t$$

Using Formula 98 in the Table of Integrals, we have

$$e^{3t}I = \int 15e^{3t} \sin 30t \, dt = 15 \frac{e^{3t}}{909} (3 \sin 30t - 30 \cos 30t) + C$$

$$I = \frac{5}{101} (\sin 30t - 10 \cos 30t) + Ce^{-3t}$$

Since  $I(0) = 0$ , we get

$$-\frac{50}{101} + C = 0$$

so

$$I(t) = \frac{5}{101} (\sin 30t - 10 \cos 30t) + \frac{50}{101} e^{-3t}$$

Figure 6 shows the graph of the current when the battery is replaced by a generator.

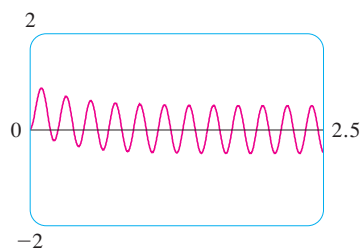


FIGURE 6

## 9.5 Exercises

1–4 Determine whether the differential equation is linear.

1.  $x - y' = xy$

2.  $y' + xy^2 = \sqrt{x}$

3.  $y' = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}$

4.  $y \sin x = x^2 y' - x$

11.  $\sin x \frac{dy}{dx} + (\cos x)y = \sin(x^2)$

12.  $x \frac{dy}{dx} - 4y = x^4 e^x$

13.  $(1+t) \frac{du}{dt} + u = 1+t, \quad t > 0$

14.  $t \ln t \frac{dr}{dt} + r = te^t$

5–14 Solve the differential equation.

5.  $y' + y = 1$

6.  $y' - y = e^x$

7.  $y' = x - y$

8.  $4x^3 y + x^4 y' = \sin^3 x$


9.  $xy' + y = \sqrt{x}$

10.  $y' + y = \sin(e^x)$

15–20 Solve the initial-value problem.

15.  $x^2 y' + 2xy = \ln x, \quad y(1) = 2$

16.  $t^3 \frac{dy}{dt} + 3t^2y = \cos t, \quad y(\pi) = 0$
17.  $t \frac{du}{dt} = t^2 + 3u, \quad t > 0, \quad u(2) = 4$
18.  $2xy' + y = 6x, \quad x > 0, \quad y(4) = 20$
19.  $xy' = y + x^2 \sin x, \quad y(\pi) = 0$
20.  $(x^2 + 1) \frac{dy}{dx} + 3x(y - 1) = 0, \quad y(0) = 2$

 **21–22** Solve the differential equation and use a graphing calculator or computer to graph several members of the family of solutions. How does the solution curve change as  $C$  varies?

21.  $xy' + 2y = e^x$                       22.  $xy' = x^2 + 2y$

**23. A Bernoulli differential equation** (named after James Bernoulli) is of the form


$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)y^n$$

Observe that, if  $n = 0$  or  $1$ , the Bernoulli equation is linear. For other values of  $n$ , show that the substitution  $u = y^{1-n}$  transforms the Bernoulli equation into the linear equation

$$\frac{du}{dx} + (1 - n)P(x)u = (1 - n)Q(x)$$

**24–25** Use the method of Exercise 23 to solve the differential equation.

24.  $xy' + y = -xy^2$                       25.  $y' + \frac{2}{x}y = \frac{y^3}{x^2}$

26. Solve the second-order equation  $xy'' + 2y' = 12x^2$  by making the substitution  $u = y'$ .
27. In the circuit shown in Figure 4, a battery supplies a constant voltage of 40 V, the inductance is 2 H, the resistance is 10  $\Omega$ , and  $I(0) = 0$ .
- (a) Find  $I(t)$ .
- (b) Find the current after 0.1 s.
28. In the circuit shown in Figure 4, a generator supplies a voltage of  $E(t) = 40 \sin 60t$  volts, the inductance is 1 H, the resistance is 20  $\Omega$ , and  $I(0) = 1$  A.
- (a) Find  $I(t)$ .
- (b) Find the current after 0.1 s.
-  (c) Use a graphing device to draw the graph of the current function.

29. The figure shows a circuit containing an electromotive force, a capacitor with a capacitance of  $C$  farads (F), and a resistor with a resistance of  $R$  ohms ( $\Omega$ ). The voltage drop across the capacitor is  $Q/C$ , where  $Q$  is the charge (in coulombs), so in

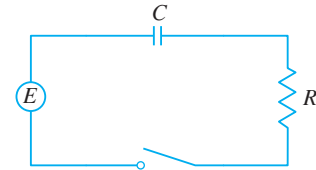
this case Kirchhoff's Law gives

$$RI + \frac{Q}{C} = E(t)$$

But  $I = dQ/dt$  (see Example 3 in Section 2.7), so we have

$$R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}Q = E(t)$$

Suppose the resistance is 5  $\Omega$ , the capacitance is 0.05 F, a battery gives a constant voltage of 60 V, and the initial charge is  $Q(0) = 0$  C. Find the charge and the current at time  $t$ .



30. In the circuit of Exercise 29,  $R = 2 \Omega$ ,  $C = 0.01$  F,  $Q(0) = 0$ , and  $E(t) = 10 \sin 60t$ . Find the charge and the current at time  $t$ .
31. Let  $P(t)$  be the performance level of someone learning a skill as a function of the training time  $t$ . The graph of  $P$  is called a *learning curve*. In Exercise 15 in Section 9.1 we proposed the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = k[M - P(t)]$$

as a reasonable model for learning, where  $k$  is a positive constant. Solve it as a linear differential equation and use your solution to graph the learning curve.

32. Two new workers were hired for an assembly line. Jim processed 25 units during the first hour and 45 units during the second hour. Mark processed 35 units during the first hour and 50 units the second hour. Using the model of Exercise 31 and assuming that  $P(0) = 0$ , estimate the maximum number of units per hour that each worker is capable of processing.
33. In Section 9.3 we looked at mixing problems in which the volume of fluid remained constant and saw that such problems give rise to separable equations. (See Example 6 in that section.) If the rates of flow into and out of the system are different, then the volume is not constant and the resulting differential equation is linear but not separable.
- A tank contains 100 L of water. A solution with a salt concentration of 0.4 kg/L is added at a rate of 5 L/min. The solution is kept mixed and is drained from the tank at a rate of 3 L/min. If  $y(t)$  is the amount of salt (in kilograms) after  $t$  minutes, show that  $y$  satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2 - \frac{3y}{100 + 2t}$$

Solve this equation and find the concentration after 20 minutes.

34. A tank with a capacity of 400 L is full of a mixture of water and chlorine with a concentration of 0.05 g of chlorine per

liter. In order to reduce the concentration of chlorine, fresh water is pumped into the tank at a rate of 4 L/s. The mixture is kept stirred and is pumped out at a rate of 10 L/s. Find the amount of chlorine in the tank as a function of time.

35. An object with mass  $m$  is dropped from rest and we assume that the air resistance is proportional to the speed of the object. If  $s(t)$  is the distance dropped after  $t$  seconds, then the speed is  $v = s'(t)$  and the acceleration is  $a = v'(t)$ . If  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity, then the downward force on the object is  $mg - cv$ , where  $c$  is a positive constant, and Newton's Second Law gives

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = mg - cv$$

- (a) Solve this as a linear equation to show that

$$v = \frac{mg}{c} (1 - e^{-ct/m})$$

- (b) What is the limiting velocity?  
(c) Find the distance the object has fallen after  $t$  seconds.

36. If we ignore air resistance, we can conclude that heavier objects fall no faster than lighter objects. But if we take air resistance into account, our conclusion changes. Use the expression for the velocity of a falling object in Exercise 35(a) to find  $dv/dm$  and show that heavier objects *do* fall faster than lighter ones.

37. (a) Show that the substitution  $z = 1/P$  transforms the logistic differential equation  $P' = kP(1 - P/M)$  into the linear differential equation

$$z' + kz = \frac{k}{M}$$

- (b) Solve the linear differential equation in part (a) and thus obtain an expression for  $P(t)$ . Compare with Equation 9.4.7.

38. To account for seasonal variation in the logistic differential equation we could allow  $k$  and  $M$  to be functions of  $t$ :

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = k(t)P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{M(t)} \right)$$

- (a) Verify that the substitution  $z = 1/P$  transforms this equation into the linear equation

$$\frac{dz}{dt} + k(t)z = \frac{k(t)}{M(t)}$$

- (b) Write an expression for the solution of the linear equation in part (a) and use it to show that if the carrying capacity  $M$  is constant, then

$$P(t) = \frac{M}{1 + CM e^{-\int k(t) dt}}$$

Deduce that if  $\int_0^\infty k(t) dt = \infty$ , then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t) = M$ . [This will be true if  $k(t) = k_0 + a \cos bt$  with  $k_0 > 0$ , which describes a positive intrinsic growth rate with a periodic seasonal variation.]

- (c) If  $k$  is constant but  $M$  varies, show that

$$z(t) = e^{-kt} \int_0^t \frac{ke^{ks}}{M(s)} ds + Ce^{-kt}$$

and use l'Hospital's Rule to deduce that if  $M(t)$  has a limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $P(t)$  has the same limit.

## 9.6 Predator-Prey Systems

We have looked at a variety of models for the growth of a single species that lives alone in an environment. In this section we consider more realistic models that take into account the interaction of two species in the same habitat. We will see that these models take the form of a pair of linked differential equations.

We first consider the situation in which one species, called the *prey*, has an ample food supply and the second species, called the *predators*, feeds on the prey. Examples of prey and predators include rabbits and wolves in an isolated forest, food fish and sharks, aphids and ladybugs, and bacteria and amoebas. Our model will have two dependent variables and both are functions of time. We let  $R(t)$  be the number of prey (using  $R$  for rabbits) and  $W(t)$  be the number of predators (with  $W$  for wolves) at time  $t$ .

In the absence of predators, the ample food supply would support exponential growth of the prey, that is,

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = kR \quad \text{where } k \text{ is a positive constant}$$

In the absence of prey, we assume that the predator population would decline at a rate pro-

portional to itself, that is,

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = -rW \quad \text{where } r \text{ is a positive constant}$$

With both species present, however, we assume that the principal cause of death among the prey is being eaten by a predator, and the birth and survival rates of the predators depend on their available food supply, namely, the prey. We also assume that the two species encounter each other at a rate that is proportional to both populations and is therefore proportional to the product  $RW$ . (The more there are of either population, the more encounters there are likely to be.) A system of two differential equations that incorporates these assumptions is as follows:

$W$  represents the predator.  
 $R$  represents the prey.

$$\boxed{1} \quad \frac{dR}{dt} = kR - aRW \quad \frac{dW}{dt} = -rW + bRW$$

where  $k$ ,  $r$ ,  $a$ , and  $b$  are positive constants. Notice that the term  $-aRW$  decreases the natural growth rate of the prey and the term  $bRW$  increases the natural growth rate of the predators.

The Lotka-Volterra equations were proposed as a model to explain the variations in the shark and food-fish populations in the Adriatic Sea by the Italian mathematician Vito Volterra (1860–1940).

The equations in  $\boxed{1}$  are known as the **predator-prey equations**, or the **Lotka-Volterra equations**. A **solution** of this system of equations is a pair of functions  $R(t)$  and  $W(t)$  that describe the populations of prey and predator as functions of time. Because the system is coupled ( $R$  and  $W$  occur in both equations), we can't solve one equation and then the other; we have to solve them simultaneously. Unfortunately, it is usually impossible to find explicit formulas for  $R$  and  $W$  as functions of  $t$ . We can, however, use graphical methods to analyze the equations.

**V EXAMPLE 1** Suppose that populations of rabbits and wolves are described by the Lotka-Volterra equations  $\boxed{1}$  with  $k = 0.08$ ,  $a = 0.001$ ,  $r = 0.02$ , and  $b = 0.00002$ . The time  $t$  is measured in months.

- Find the constant solutions (called the **equilibrium solutions**) and interpret the answer.
- Use the system of differential equations to find an expression for  $dW/dR$ .
- Draw a direction field for the resulting differential equation in the  $RW$ -plane. Then use that direction field to sketch some solution curves.
- Suppose that, at some point in time, there are 1000 rabbits and 40 wolves. Draw the corresponding solution curve and use it to describe the changes in both population levels.
- Use part (d) to make sketches of  $R$  and  $W$  as functions of  $t$ .

**SOLUTION**

- With the given values of  $k$ ,  $a$ ,  $r$ , and  $b$ , the Lotka-Volterra equations become

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = 0.08R - 0.001RW$$

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = -0.02W + 0.00002RW$$

Both  $R$  and  $W$  will be constant if both derivatives are 0, that is,

$$R' = R(0.08 - 0.001W) = 0$$

$$W' = W(-0.02 + 0.00002R) = 0$$



One solution is given by  $R = 0$  and  $W = 0$ . (This makes sense: If there are no rabbits or wolves, the populations are certainly not going to increase.) The other constant solution is

$$W = \frac{0.08}{0.001} = 80 \quad R = \frac{0.02}{0.00002} = 1000$$

So the equilibrium populations consist of 80 wolves and 1000 rabbits. This means that 1000 rabbits are just enough to support a constant wolf population of 80. There are neither too many wolves (which would result in fewer rabbits) nor too few wolves (which would result in more rabbits).

(b) We use the Chain Rule to eliminate  $t$ :

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{dW}{dR} \frac{dR}{dt}$$

so

$$\frac{dW}{dR} = \frac{\frac{dW}{dt}}{\frac{dR}{dt}} = \frac{-0.02W + 0.00002RW}{0.08R - 0.001RW}$$

(c) If we think of  $W$  as a function of  $R$ , we have the differential equation

$$\frac{dW}{dR} = \frac{-0.02W + 0.00002RW}{0.08R - 0.001RW}$$

We draw the direction field for this differential equation in Figure 1 and we use it to sketch several solution curves in Figure 2. If we move along a solution curve, we observe how the relationship between  $R$  and  $W$  changes as time passes. Notice that the curves appear to be closed in the sense that if we travel along a curve, we always return to the same point. Notice also that the point  $(1000, 80)$  is inside all the solution curves. That point is called an *equilibrium point* because it corresponds to the equilibrium solution  $R = 1000$ ,  $W = 80$ .

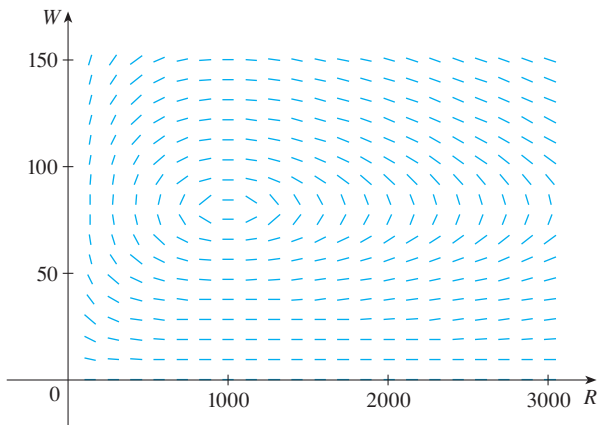


FIGURE 1 Direction field for the predator-prey system

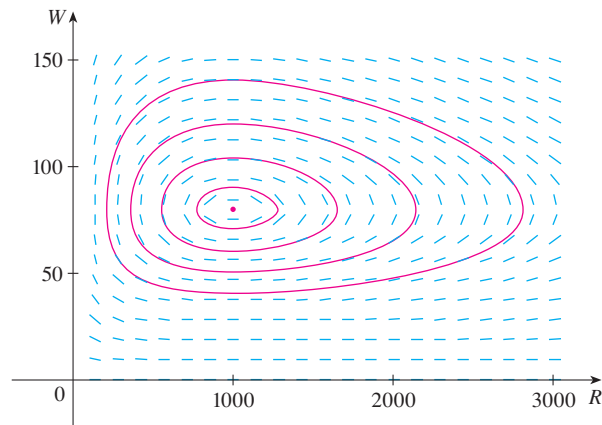


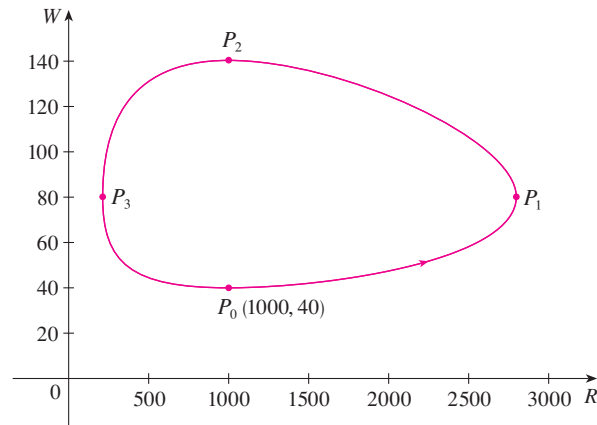
FIGURE 2 Phase portrait of the system

When we represent solutions of a system of differential equations as in Figure 2, we refer to the  $RW$ -plane as the **phase plane**, and we call the solution curves **phase trajectories**. So a phase trajectory is a path traced out by solutions  $(R, W)$  as time goes by. A **phase portrait** consists of equilibrium points and typical phase trajectories, as shown in Figure 2.

(d) Starting with 1000 rabbits and 40 wolves corresponds to drawing the solution curve through the point  $P_0(1000, 40)$ . Figure 3 shows this phase trajectory with the direction field removed. Starting at the point  $P_0$  at time  $t = 0$  and letting  $t$  increase, do we move clockwise or counterclockwise around the phase trajectory? If we put  $R = 1000$  and  $W = 40$  in the first differential equation, we get

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = 0.08(1000) - 0.001(1000)(40) = 80 - 40 = 40$$

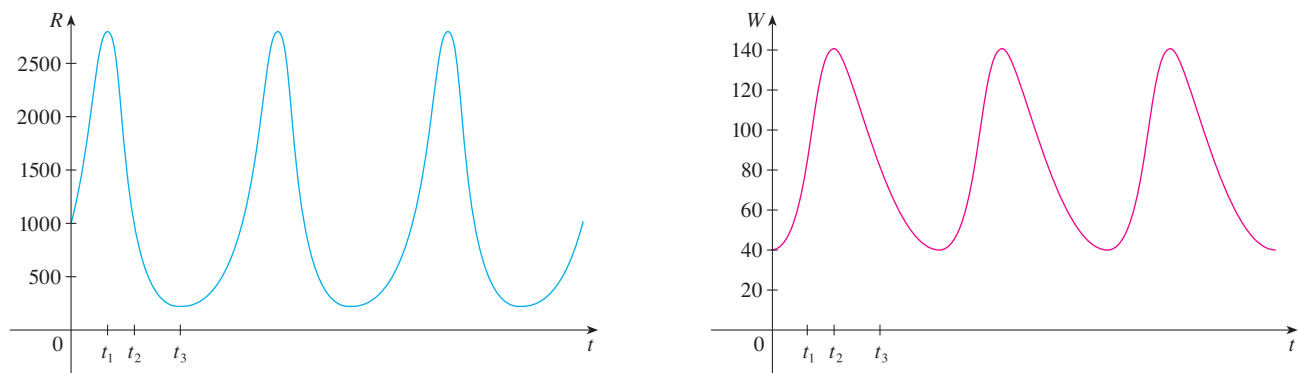
Since  $dR/dt > 0$ , we conclude that  $R$  is increasing at  $P_0$  and so we move counterclockwise around the phase trajectory.



**FIGURE 3**  
Phase trajectory through (1000, 40)

We see that at  $P_0$  there aren't enough wolves to maintain a balance between the populations, so the rabbit population increases. That results in more wolves and eventually there are so many wolves that the rabbits have a hard time avoiding them. So the number of rabbits begins to decline (at  $P_1$ , where we estimate that  $R$  reaches its maximum population of about 2800). This means that at some later time the wolf population starts to fall (at  $P_2$ , where  $R = 1000$  and  $W \approx 140$ ). But this benefits the rabbits, so their population later starts to increase (at  $P_3$ , where  $W = 80$  and  $R \approx 210$ ). As a consequence, the wolf population eventually starts to increase as well. This happens when the populations return to their initial values of  $R = 1000$  and  $W = 40$ , and the entire cycle begins again.

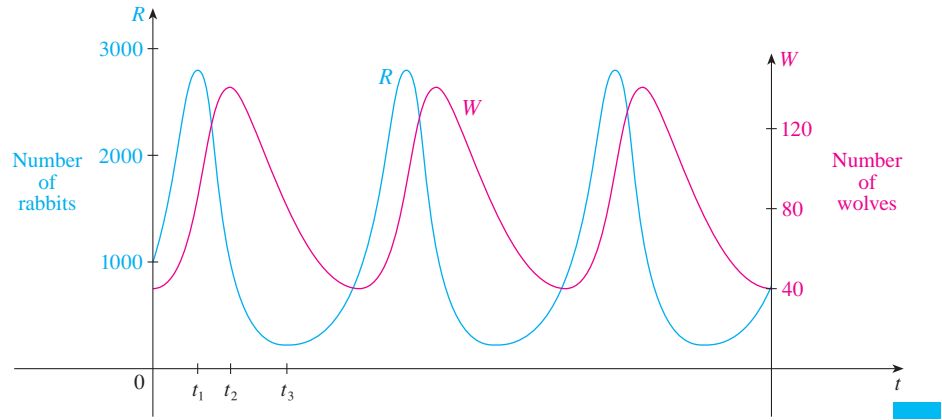
(e) From the description in part (d) of how the rabbit and wolf populations rise and fall, we can sketch the graphs of  $R(t)$  and  $W(t)$ . Suppose the points  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ , and  $P_3$  in Figure 3 are reached at times  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$ , and  $t_3$ . Then we can sketch graphs of  $R$  and  $W$  as in Figure 4.



**FIGURE 4** Graphs of the rabbit and wolf populations as functions of time

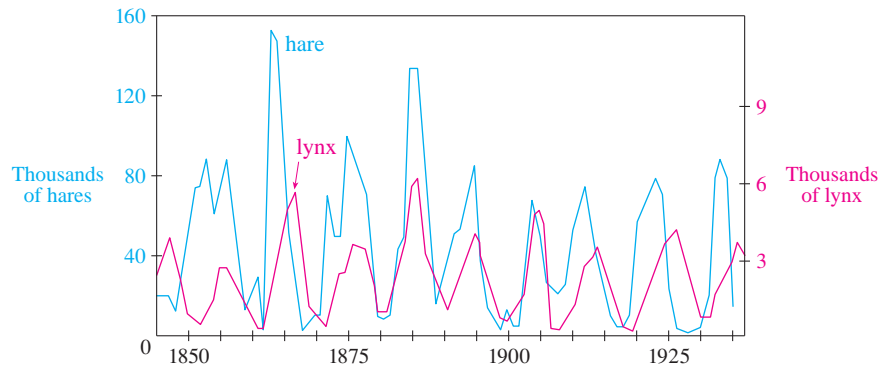
**TEC** In Module 9.6 you can change the coefficients in the Lotka-Volterra equations and observe the resulting changes in the phase trajectory and graphs of the rabbit and wolf populations.

To make the graphs easier to compare, we draw the graphs on the same axes but with different scales for  $R$  and  $W$ , as in Figure 5. Notice that the rabbits reach their maximum populations about a quarter of a cycle before the wolves.



**FIGURE 5**  
Comparison of the rabbit and wolf populations

An important part of the modeling process, as we discussed in Section 1.2, is to interpret our mathematical conclusions as real-world predictions and to test the predictions against real data. The Hudson’s Bay Company, which started trading in animal furs in Canada in 1670, has kept records that date back to the 1840s. Figure 6 shows graphs of the number of pelts of the snowshoe hare and its predator, the Canada lynx, traded by the company over a 90-year period. You can see that the coupled oscillations in the hare and lynx populations predicted by the Lotka-Volterra model do actually occur and the period of these cycles is roughly 10 years.



**FIGURE 6**  
Relative abundance of hare and lynx from Hudson’s Bay Company records

Although the relatively simple Lotka-Volterra model has had some success in explaining and predicting coupled populations, more sophisticated models have also been proposed. One way to modify the Lotka-Volterra equations is to assume that, in the absence of predators, the prey grow according to a logistic model with carrying capacity  $M$ . Then the Lotka-Volterra equations [1] are replaced by the system of differential equations

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = kR \left( 1 - \frac{R}{M} \right) - aRW \qquad \frac{dW}{dt} = -rW + bRW$$

This model is investigated in Exercises 11 and 12.

Models have also been proposed to describe and predict population levels of two or more species that compete for the same resources or cooperate for mutual benefit. Such models are explored in Exercises 2–4.

## 9.6 Exercises

1. For each predator-prey system, determine which of the variables,  $x$  or  $y$ , represents the prey population and which represents the predator population. Is the growth of the prey restricted just by the predators or by other factors as well? Do the predators feed only on the prey or do they have additional food sources? Explain.

$$(a) \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= -0.05x + 0.0001xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 0.1y - 0.005xy \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 0.2x - 0.0002x^2 - 0.006xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -0.015y + 0.00008xy \end{aligned}$$

2. Each system of differential equations is a model for two species that either compete for the same resources or cooperate for mutual benefit (flowering plants and insect pollinators, for instance). Decide whether each system describes competition or cooperation and explain why it is a reasonable model. (Ask yourself what effect an increase in one species has on the growth rate of the other.)

$$(a) \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 0.12x - 0.0006x^2 + 0.00001xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 0.08x + 0.00004xy \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 0.15x - 0.0002x^2 - 0.0006xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 0.2y - 0.00008y^2 - 0.0002xy \end{aligned}$$

3. The system of differential equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 0.5x - 0.004x^2 - 0.001xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 0.4y - 0.001y^2 - 0.002xy \end{aligned}$$

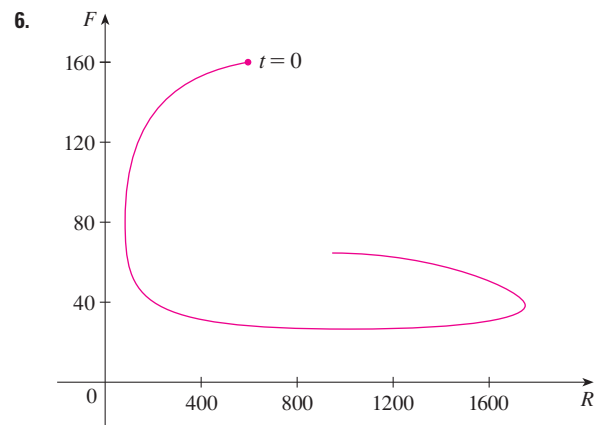
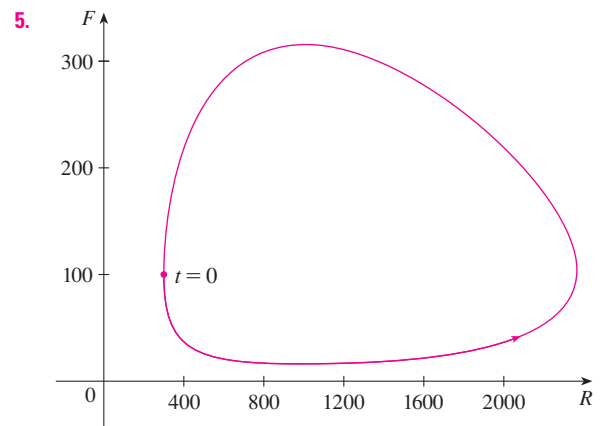
is a model for the populations of two species.

- (a) Does the model describe cooperation, or competition, or a predator-prey relationship?  
 (b) Find the equilibrium solutions and explain their significance.
4. Flies, frogs, and crocodiles coexist in an environment. To survive, frogs need to eat flies and crocodiles need to eat frogs. In

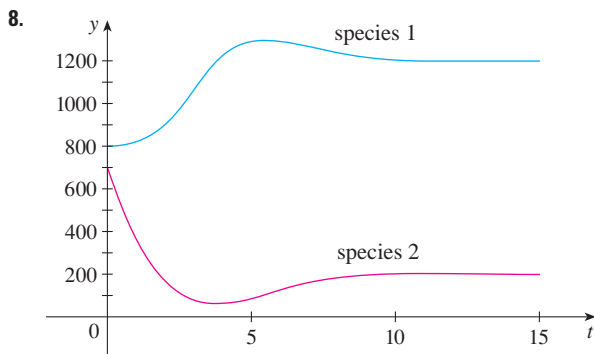
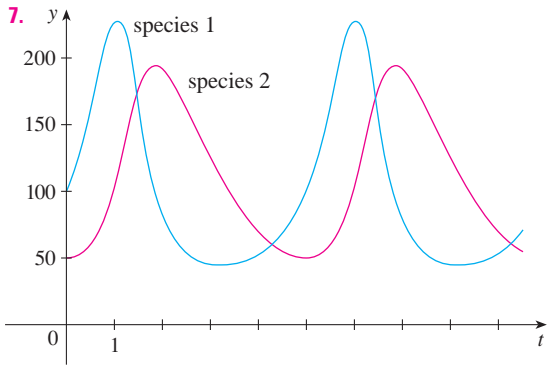
the absence of frogs, the fly population will grow exponentially and the crocodile population will decay exponentially. In the absence of crocodiles and flies, the frog population will decay exponentially. If  $P(t)$ ,  $Q(t)$ , and  $R(t)$  represent the populations of these three species at time  $t$ , write a system of differential equations as a model for their evolution. If the constants in your equation are all positive, explain why you have used plus or minus signs.

- 5–6 A phase trajectory is shown for populations of rabbits ( $R$ ) and foxes ( $F$ ).

- (a) Describe how each population changes as time goes by.  
 (b) Use your description to make a rough sketch of the graphs of  $R$  and  $F$  as functions of time.



7–8 Graphs of populations of two species are shown. Use them to sketch the corresponding phase trajectory.



9. In Example 1(b) we showed that the rabbit and wolf populations satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dW}{dR} = \frac{-0.02W + 0.00002RW}{0.08R - 0.001RW}$$

By solving this separable differential equation, show that

$$\frac{R^{0.02}W^{0.08}}{e^{0.00002R}e^{0.001W}} = C$$

where  $C$  is a constant.

It is impossible to solve this equation for  $W$  as an explicit function of  $R$  (or vice versa). If you have a computer algebra system that graphs implicitly defined curves, use this equation and your CAS to draw the solution curve that passes through the point  $(1000, 40)$  and compare with Figure 3.

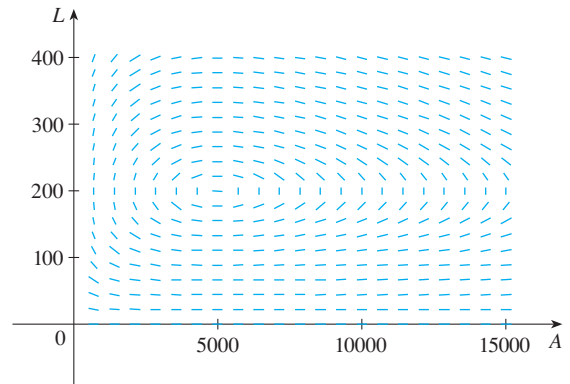
10. Populations of aphids and ladybugs are modeled by the equations

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 2A - 0.01AL$$

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -0.5L + 0.0001AL$$

- Find the equilibrium solutions and explain their significance.
- Find an expression for  $dL/dA$ .

(c) The direction field for the differential equation in part (b) is shown. Use it to sketch a phase portrait. What do the phase trajectories have in common?



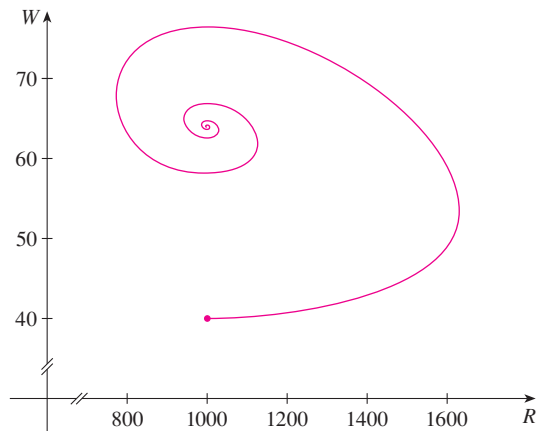
- Suppose that at time  $t = 0$  there are 1000 aphids and 200 ladybugs. Draw the corresponding phase trajectory and use it to describe how both populations change.
- Use part (d) to make rough sketches of the aphid and ladybug populations as functions of  $t$ . How are the graphs related to each other?

11. In Example 1 we used Lotka-Volterra equations to model populations of rabbits and wolves. Let's modify those equations as follows:

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = 0.08R(1 - 0.0002R) - 0.001RW$$

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = -0.02W + 0.00002RW$$

- According to these equations, what happens to the rabbit population in the absence of wolves?
- Find all the equilibrium solutions and explain their significance.
- The figure shows the phase trajectory that starts at the point  $(1000, 40)$ . Describe what eventually happens to the rabbit and wolf populations.



(d) Sketch graphs of the rabbit and wolf populations as functions of time.

- CAS** 12. In Exercise 10 we modeled populations of aphids and ladybugs with a Lotka-Volterra system. Suppose we modify those equations as follows:

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 2A(1 - 0.0001A) - 0.01AL$$

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -0.5L + 0.0001AL$$

- (a) In the absence of ladybugs, what does the model predict about the aphids?

- (b) Find the equilibrium solutions.  
 (c) Find an expression for  $dL/dA$ .  
 (d) Use a computer algebra system to draw a direction field for the differential equation in part (c). Then use the direction field to sketch a phase portrait. What do the phase trajectories have in common?  
 (e) Suppose that at time  $t = 0$  there are 1000 aphids and 200 ladybugs. Draw the corresponding phase trajectory and use it to describe how both populations change.  
 (f) Use part (e) to make rough sketches of the aphid and ladybug populations as functions of  $t$ . How are the graphs related to each other?

## 9 Review

### Concept Check

- (a) What is a differential equation?  
 (b) What is the order of a differential equation?  
 (c) What is an initial condition?
- What can you say about the solutions of the equation  $y' = x^2 + y^2$  just by looking at the differential equation?
- What is a direction field for the differential equation  $y' = F(x, y)$ ?
- Explain how Euler's method works.
- What is a separable differential equation? How do you solve it?
- What is a first-order linear differential equation? How do you solve it?
- (a) Write a differential equation that expresses the law of natural growth. What does it say in terms of relative growth rate?  
 (b) Under what circumstances is this an appropriate model for population growth?  
 (c) What are the solutions of this equation?
- (a) Write the logistic equation.  
 (b) Under what circumstances is this an appropriate model for population growth?
- (a) Write Lotka-Volterra equations to model populations of food fish ( $F$ ) and sharks ( $S$ ).  
 (b) What do these equations say about each population in the absence of the other?

### True-False Quiz

Determine whether the statement is true or false. If it is true, explain why. If it is false, explain why or give an example that disproves the statement.

- All solutions of the differential equation  $y' = -1 - y^4$  are decreasing functions.
- The function  $f(x) = (\ln x)/x$  is a solution of the differential equation  $x^2y' + xy = 1$ .
- The equation  $y' = x + y$  is separable.
- The equation  $y' = 3y - 2x + 6xy - 1$  is separable.

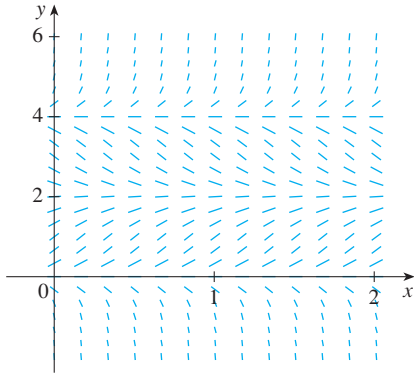
- The equation  $e^xy' = y$  is linear.
- The equation  $y' + xy = e^y$  is linear.
- If  $y$  is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2y \left( 1 - \frac{y}{5} \right) \quad y(0) = 1$$

then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y = 5$ .

## Exercises

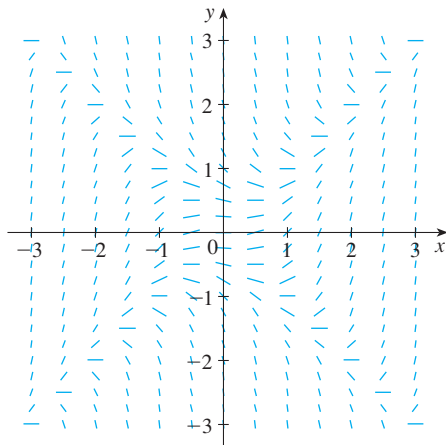
1. (a) A direction field for the differential equation  $y' = y(y - 2)(y - 4)$  is shown. Sketch the graphs of the solutions that satisfy the given initial conditions.
- (i)  $y(0) = -0.3$       (ii)  $y(0) = 1$   
 (iii)  $y(0) = 3$       (iv)  $y(0) = 4.3$
- (b) If the initial condition is  $y(0) = c$ , for what values of  $c$  is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t)$  finite? What are the equilibrium solutions?



2. (a) Sketch a direction field for the differential equation  $y' = x/y$ . Then use it to sketch the four solutions that satisfy the initial conditions  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y(0) = -1$ ,  $y(2) = 1$ , and  $y(-2) = 1$ .
- (b) Check your work in part (a) by solving the differential equation explicitly. What type of curve is each solution curve?
3. (a) A direction field for the differential equation  $y' = x^2 - y^2$  is shown. Sketch the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = x^2 - y^2 \quad y(0) = 1$$

Use your graph to estimate the value of  $y(0.3)$ .



- (b) Use Euler's method with step size 0.1 to estimate  $y(0.3)$ , where  $y(x)$  is the solution of the initial-value problem in part (a). Compare with your estimate from part (a).
- (c) On what lines are the centers of the horizontal line segments of the direction field in part (a) located? What happens when a solution curve crosses these lines?

4. (a) Use Euler's method with step size 0.2 to estimate  $y(0.4)$ , where  $y(x)$  is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y' = 2xy^2 \quad y(0) = 1$$


- (b) Repeat part (a) with step size 0.1.
- (c) Find the exact solution of the differential equation and compare the value at 0.4 with the approximations in parts (a) and (b).

5–8 Solve the differential equation.

5.  $y' = xe^{-\sin x} - y \cos x$       6.  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 1 - t + x - tx$   
 7.  $2ye^{y^2}y' = 2x + 3\sqrt{x}$       8.  $x^2y' - y = 2x^3e^{-1/x}$

9–11 Solve the initial-value problem.

9.  $\frac{dr}{dt} + 2tr = r, \quad r(0) = 5$   
 10.  $(1 + \cos x)y' = (1 + e^{-y})\sin x, \quad y(0) = 0$   
 11.  $xy' - y = x \ln x, \quad y(1) = 2$

-  12. Solve the initial-value problem  $y' = 3x^2e^y$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ , and graph the solution.

13–14 Find the orthogonal trajectories of the family of curves.

13.  $y = ke^x$       14.  $y = e^{kx}$

15. (a) Write the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.1P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{2000} \right) \quad P(0) = 100$$

and use it to find the population when  $t = 20$ .

(b) When does the population reach 1200?

16. (a) The population of the world was 5.28 billion in 1990 and 6.07 billion in 2000. Find an exponential model for these data and use the model to predict the world population in the year 2020.
- (b) According to the model in part (a), when will the world population exceed 10 billion?
- (c) Use the data in part (a) to find a logistic model for the population. Assume a carrying capacity of 100 billion. Then



- use the logistic model to predict the population in 2020. Compare with your prediction from the exponential model.
- (d) According to the logistic model, when will the world population exceed 10 billion? Compare with your prediction in part (b).
17. The von Bertalanffy growth model is used to predict the length  $L(t)$  of a fish over a period of time. If  $L_\infty$  is the largest length for a species, then the hypothesis is that the rate of growth in length is proportional to  $L_\infty - L$ , the length yet to be achieved.
- (a) Formulate and solve a differential equation to find an expression for  $L(t)$ .
- (b) For the North Sea haddock it has been determined that  $L_\infty = 53$  cm,  $L(0) = 10$  cm, and the constant of proportionality is 0.2. What does the expression for  $L(t)$  become with these data?
18. A tank contains 100 L of pure water. Brine that contains 0.1 kg of salt per liter enters the tank at a rate of 10 L/min. The solution is kept thoroughly mixed and drains from the tank at the same rate. How much salt is in the tank after 6 minutes?
19. One model for the spread of an epidemic is that the rate of spread is jointly proportional to the number of infected people and the number of uninfected people. In an isolated town of 5000 inhabitants, 160 people have a disease at the beginning of the week and 1200 have it at the end of the week. How long does it take for 80% of the population to become infected?
20. The Brentano-Stevens Law in psychology models the way that a subject reacts to a stimulus. It states that if  $R$  represents the reaction to an amount  $S$  of stimulus, then the relative rates of increase are proportional:

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dt} = \frac{k}{S} \frac{dS}{dt}$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant. Find  $R$  as a function of  $S$ .

21. The transport of a substance across a capillary wall in lung physiology has been modeled by the differential equation

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{R}{V} \left( \frac{h}{k+h} \right)$$

where  $h$  is the hormone concentration in the bloodstream,  $t$  is time,  $R$  is the maximum transport rate,  $V$  is the volume of the capillary, and  $k$  is a positive constant that measures the affinity between the hormones and the enzymes that assist the process. Solve this differential equation to find a relationship between  $h$  and  $t$ .

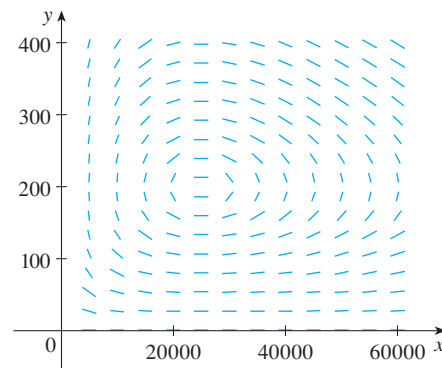
22. Populations of birds and insects are modeled by the equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0.4x - 0.002xy$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -0.2y + 0.000008xy$$

- (a) Which of the variables,  $x$  or  $y$ , represents the bird population and which represents the insect population? Explain.

- (b) Find the equilibrium solutions and explain their significance.
- (c) Find an expression for  $dy/dx$ .
- (d) The direction field for the differential equation in part (c) is shown. Use it to sketch the phase trajectory corresponding to initial populations of 100 birds and 40,000 insects. Then use the phase trajectory to describe how both populations change.



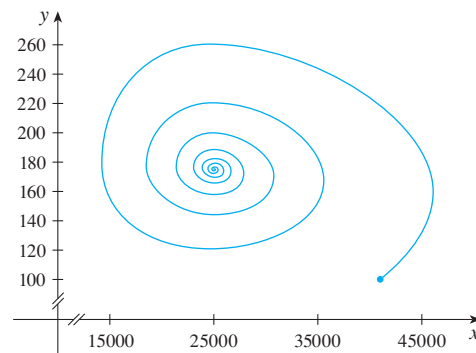
- (e) Use part (d) to make rough sketches of the bird and insect populations as functions of time. How are these graphs related to each other?

23. Suppose the model of Exercise 22 is replaced by the equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0.4x(1 - 0.000005x) - 0.002xy$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -0.2y + 0.000008xy$$

- (a) According to these equations, what happens to the insect population in the absence of birds?
- (b) Find the equilibrium solutions and explain their significance.
- (c) The figure shows the phase trajectory that starts with 100 birds and 40,000 insects. Describe what eventually happens to the bird and insect populations.



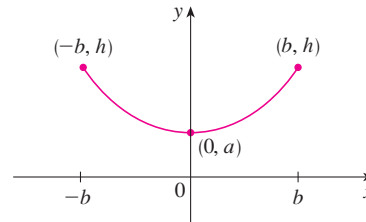
- (d) Sketch graphs of the bird and insect populations as functions of time.

24. Barbara weighs 60 kg and is on a diet of 1600 calories per day, of which 850 are used automatically by basal metabolism. She spends about 15 cal/kg/day times her weight doing exercise. If 1 kg of fat contains 10,000 cal and we assume that the storage of calories in the form of fat is 100% efficient, formulate a differential equation and solve it to find her weight as a function of time. Does her weight ultimately approach an equilibrium weight?
25. When a flexible cable of uniform density is suspended between two fixed points and hangs of its own weight, the shape  $y = f(x)$  of the cable must satisfy a differential equation of the form

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = k \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant. Consider the cable shown in the figure.

- (a) Let  $z = dy/dx$  in the differential equation. Solve the resulting first-order differential equation (in  $z$ ), and then integrate to find  $y$ .
- (b) Determine the length of the cable.



# Problems Plus

1. Find all functions  $f$  such that  $f'$  is continuous and

$$[f(x)]^2 = 100 + \int_0^x \{[f(t)]^2 + [f'(t)]^2\} dt \quad \text{for all real } x$$

2. A student forgot the Product Rule for differentiation and made the mistake of thinking that  $(fg)' = f'g'$ . However, he was lucky and got the correct answer. The function  $f$  that he used was  $f(x) = e^{x^2}$  and the domain of his problem was the interval  $(\frac{1}{2}, \infty)$ . What was the function  $g$ ?
3. Let  $f$  be a function with the property that  $f(0) = 1$ ,  $f'(0) = 1$ , and  $f(a + b) = f(a)f(b)$  for all real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ . Show that  $f'(x) = f(x)$  for all  $x$  and deduce that  $f(x) = e^x$ .
4. Find all functions  $f$  that satisfy the equation

$$\left( \int f(x) dx \right) \left( \int \frac{1}{f(x)} dx \right) = -1$$

5. Find the curve  $y = f(x)$  such that  $f(x) \geq 0$ ,  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f(1) = 1$ , and the area under the graph of  $f$  from 0 to  $x$  is proportional to the  $(n + 1)$ st power of  $f(x)$ .
6. A *subtangent* is a portion of the  $x$ -axis that lies directly beneath the segment of a tangent line from the point of contact to the  $x$ -axis. Find the curves that pass through the point  $(c, 1)$  and whose subtangents all have length  $c$ .
7. A peach pie is taken out of the oven at 5:00 PM. At that time it is piping hot,  $100^\circ\text{C}$ . At 5:10 PM its temperature is  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ; at 5:20 PM it is  $65^\circ\text{C}$ . What is the temperature of the room?
8. Snow began to fall during the morning of February 2 and continued steadily into the afternoon. At noon a snowplow began removing snow from a road at a constant rate. The plow traveled 6 km from noon to 1 PM but only 3 km from 1 PM to 2 PM. When did the snow begin to fall? [Hints: To get started, let  $t$  be the time measured in hours after noon; let  $x(t)$  be the distance traveled by the plow at time  $t$ ; then the speed of the plow is  $dx/dt$ . Let  $b$  be the number of hours before noon that it began to snow. Find an expression for the height of the snow at time  $t$ . Then use the given information that the rate of removal  $R$  (in  $\text{m}^3/\text{h}$ ) is constant.]

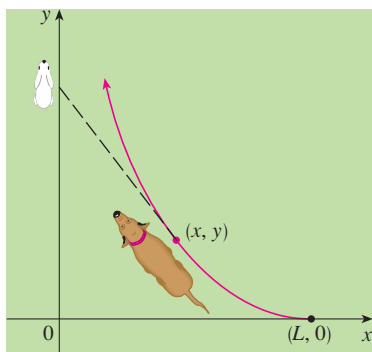



FIGURE FOR PROBLEM 9

9. A dog sees a rabbit running in a straight line across an open field and gives chase. In a rectangular coordinate system (as shown in the figure), assume:
- The rabbit is at the origin and the dog is at the point  $(L, 0)$  at the instant the dog first sees the rabbit.
  - The rabbit runs up the  $y$ -axis and the dog always runs straight for the rabbit.
  - The dog runs at the same speed as the rabbit.
- (a) Show that the dog's path is the graph of the function  $y = f(x)$ , where  $y$  satisfies the differential equation

$$x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2}$$

- (b) Determine the solution of the equation in part (a) that satisfies the initial conditions  $y = y' = 0$  when  $x = L$ . [Hint: Let  $z = dy/dx$  in the differential equation and solve the resulting first-order equation to find  $z$ ; then integrate  $z$  to find  $y$ .]
- (c) Does the dog ever catch the rabbit?

 Graphing calculator or computer required

10. (a) Suppose that the dog in Problem 9 runs twice as fast as the rabbit. Find a differential equation for the path of the dog. Then solve it to find the point where the dog catches the rabbit.
- (b) Suppose the dog runs half as fast as the rabbit. How close does the dog get to the rabbit? What are their positions when they are closest?
11. A planning engineer for a new alum plant must present some estimates to his company regarding the capacity of a silo designed to contain bauxite ore until it is processed into alum. The ore resembles pink talcum powder and is poured from a conveyor at the top of the silo. The silo is a cylinder 100 ft high with a radius of 200 ft. The conveyor carries ore at a rate of  $60,000\pi$  ft<sup>3</sup>/h and the ore maintains a conical shape whose radius is 1.5 times its height.
- (a) If, at a certain time  $t$ , the pile is 60 ft high, how long will it take for the pile to reach the top of the silo?
- (b) Management wants to know how much room will be left in the floor area of the silo when the pile is 60 ft high. How fast is the floor area of the pile growing at that height?
- (c) Suppose a loader starts removing the ore at the rate of  $20,000\pi$  ft<sup>3</sup>/h when the height of the pile reaches 90 ft. Suppose, also, that the pile continues to maintain its shape. How long will it take for the pile to reach the top of the silo under these conditions?
12. Find the curve that passes through the point  $(3, 2)$  and has the property that if the tangent line is drawn at any point  $P$  on the curve, then the part of the tangent line that lies in the first quadrant is bisected at  $P$ .
13. Recall that the normal line to a curve at a point  $P$  on the curve is the line that passes through  $P$  and is perpendicular to the tangent line at  $P$ . Find the curve that passes through the point  $(3, 2)$  and has the property that if the normal line is drawn at any point on the curve, then the  $y$ -intercept of the normal line is always 6.
14. Find all curves with the property that if the normal line is drawn at any point  $P$  on the curve, then the part of the normal line between  $P$  and the  $x$ -axis is bisected by the  $y$ -axis.
15. Find all curves with the property that if a line is drawn from the origin to any point  $(x, y)$  on the curve, and then a tangent is drawn to the curve at that point and extended to meet the  $x$ -axis, the result is an isosceles triangle with equal sides meeting at  $(x, y)$ .
16. (a) An outfielder fields a baseball 280 ft away from home plate and throws it directly to the catcher with an initial velocity of 100 ft/s. Assume that the velocity  $v(t)$  of the ball after  $t$  seconds satisfies the differential equation  $dv/dt = -\frac{1}{10}v$  because of air resistance. How long does it take for the ball to reach home plate? (Ignore any vertical motion of the ball.)
- (b) The manager of the team wonders whether the ball will reach home plate sooner if it is relayed by an infielder. The shortstop can position himself directly between the outfielder and home plate, catch the ball thrown by the outfielder, turn, and throw the ball to the catcher with an initial velocity of 105 ft/s. The manager clocks the relay time of the shortstop (catching, turning, throwing) at half a second. How far from home plate should the shortstop position himself to minimize the total time for the ball to reach home plate? Should the manager encourage a direct throw or a relayed throw? What if the shortstop can throw at 115 ft/s?
-  (c) For what throwing velocity of the shortstop does a relayed throw take the same time as a direct throw?