

Name _____
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Math 2250-4
Quiz 3 SOLUTIONS
January 27, 2012

1) Consider the following differential equation for a function $x(t)$, which could be modeling a logistic population with harvesting:

$$x'(t) = -2(x-3)(x-1).$$

1a) Draw a phase diagram. Identify the equilibrium solutions and whether or not they are stable.

(3 points)

The sign chart of $x'(t)$ looks like

$$- - - - 0 + + + 0 - - - -$$

where the zeroes are at the equilibrium solutions $x(t) \equiv 1, 3$. Thus the phase diagram looks like

$$\leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow 1 \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow 3 \leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow .$$

Thus $x \equiv 1$ is unstable and $x \equiv 3$ is asymptotically stable.

1b) Solve the initial value problem for the differential equation above, with $x(0) = 4$:

$$x'(t) = -2(x-3)(x-1)$$

$$x(0) = 4.$$

Hint: To save time with partial fractions use the identity

$$\frac{1}{(x-a)(x-b)} = \frac{1}{a-b} \left(\frac{1}{x-a} - \frac{1}{x-b} \right).$$

(6 points)

Separate:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{(x-3)(x-1)} &= -2 dt \\ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{x-3} - \frac{1}{x-1} \right) &= -2 dt \\ \frac{1}{x-3} - \frac{1}{x-1} &= -4 dt. \end{aligned}$$

Now integrate:

$$\ln|x-3| - \ln|x-1| = -4t + C_1$$

$$\ln \left(\frac{|x-3|}{|x-1|} \right) = -4t + C_1$$

$$\ln \left| \frac{x-3}{x-1} \right| = -4t + C_1$$

exponentiate:

$$\left| \frac{x-3}{x-1} \right| = e^{C_1} e^{-4t}$$

$$\left(\frac{x-3}{x-1} \right) = C e^{-4t}$$

use initial values to find C , at $t = 0$, $x = 4$: Thus $\frac{1}{3} = C$.

$$\left(\frac{x-3}{x-1} \right) = \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}$$

multiply by $(x-1)$:

$$x-3 = \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t} (x-1) = \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t} x - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}.$$

$$x \left(1 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t} \right) = 3 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}$$

$$x(t) = \frac{3 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}}{1 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}}.$$

For fun:

`> with(DEtools) :`

`> dsolve({x'(t) = -2*(x(t)-3)*(x(t)-1), x(0) = 4});`

$$x(t) = \frac{e^{-4t} - 9}{e^{-4t} - 3}$$

(1)

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1c) For your solution $x(t)$ to (b), does $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t)$ agree with the value implied by your phase diagram in part (a)?

(1 point)

Yes: according to the phase portrait, any IVP solution with $1 < x_0 < \infty$ will converge to 3 as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Since the denominator of

$$x(t) = \frac{3 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}}{1 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-4t}}$$

stays positive for $t > 0$ and since the exponential terms converge to zero as $t \rightarrow \infty$, we also conclude from the formula for $x(t)$ that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 3$.