Precalculus 1 (Algebra)

Chapter 5. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions 5.8. Exponential Growth and Decay Models; Newton's Law; Logistic Growth and Decay Models—Exercises, Examples, Proofs



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Page 332 Number 2. The number N of bacteria present in a culture at time t (in hours) obeys the law of uninhibited growth $N(t) = 1000e^{0.01t}$. (a) Determine the number of bacteria at t = 0 hours. (b) What is the growth rate of the bacteria? (c) What is the population after 4 hours? (d) When will the number of bacteria reach 1700? (e) When will the number of bacteria double?

Solution. (a) The number of bacteria at t = 0 is $N(0) = 1000e^{0.01(0)} = 1000e^0 = 1000(1) = 1000$. Notice that this is N_0 if we write $N(t) = N_0 e^{kt}$.

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(e) Since the initial number of bacteria is 1000, then the number has doubled when the number of bacteria is 2000. So we solve for t in the equation $N(t) = 1000e^{0.01t} = 2000$, or $e^{0.01t} = 2000/1000 = 2$.

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Solution. (a) The decay rate is parameter k where $A(t) = A_0 e^{kt}$, so the decay rate is -0.087.

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(b) When t = 9 days, the amount of iodine-131 is $A(9) = 100e^{-0.087(9)} = 100e^{-0.783} \approx 45.70$ grams.

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Solution (continued). (c) The amount of iodine-131 will be 70 grams when *t* satisfies $A(t) = 100e^{-0.087t} = 70$, or $e^{-0.087t} = 70/100 = 0.7$. So we take a natural logarithm of both sides to get $\ln e^{-0.087t} = \ln 0.7$, or $-0.087t = \ln 0.7$, or $t = -(\ln 0.7)/0.087 \approx 4.10$ days.

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(d) The half-life is the time it takes the original amount, $A_0 = 100$ grams, to decay down to A = 50 grams. So we set $A(t) = 100e^{-0.087t} = 50$ and solve for t.

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Page 332 Number 14. A thermometer reading 72°F is placed in a refrigerator where the temperature is a constant $38^{\circ}F$. (a) If the thermometer reads 60°F after 2 minutes, what will it read after 7 minutes? (b) How long will it take before the thermometer reads 39°F? (c) Determine the time that must elapse before the thermometer reads 45° F. (d) What do you notice about the temperature as time passes? **Solution.** Recall that Newton's Law of Cooling states $u(t) = T + (u_0 - T)e^{kt}$ where k < 0. Here we measure temperature in degrees Fahrenheit and time in minutes. We are given an initial temperature of $u_0 = 72^{\circ}$ F and a temperature of the medium of $T = 38^{\circ}$ F, so that for this problem $u(t) = 38 + (72 - 38)e^{kt} = 38 + 34e^{kt}$ (a) We can find k based on the given fact that $u(2) = 38 + 34e^{k(2)} = 60$, or $34e^{2k} = 22$, or $e^{2k} = 22/34$, or $\ln e^{2k} = \ln 22/34$, or $2k = \ln 22/34$, or $k = \frac{1}{2} \ln 22/34 \approx -0.218$. Hence, we have $u(t) = 38 + 34e^{-0.218t}$. So when t = 7 minutes, the thermometer will read $u(7) = 38 + 34e^{-0.218(7)} \approx 45.4^{\circ}\text{F}$

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Solution (continued). (b) The temperature will be 39°F when t satisfies $u(t) = 38 + 34e^{-0.218t} = 39$, or $34e^{-0.218t} = 1$ or $e^{-0.218t} = 1/34$ or $\ln e^{-0.218t} = \ln 1/34$, or $-0.218t = \ln 1/34$, or

$$t = -(\ln 1/34)/0.218 \approx 16.18$$
 minutes

(c) The temperature will be 45° F when t satisfies $u(t) = 38 + 34e^{-0.218t} = 45$, or $34e^{-0.218t} = 7$ or $e^{-0.218t} = 7/34$ or $\ln e^{-0.218t} = \ln 7/34$, or $-0.218t = \ln 7/34$, or $t = -(\ln 7/34)/0.218 \approx 7.25$ minutes.

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Page 333 Number 26. Environmentalists often capture an endangered species and transport the species to a controlled environment where the species can produce offspring and regenerate its population. Suppose that six American bald eagles are captured, transported to Montana, and set free. Based on experience, the environmentalists expect the population to grow according to the model $P(t) = \frac{500}{1 + 83.33e^{-0.162t}}$ where t is measured in years. (a) Determine the carrying capacity of the environment. (b) What is the growth rate of the bald eagle? (c) What is the population after 3 years? (d) When will the population be 300 eagles? (e) How long does it take for the population to reach one-half of the carrying capacity? **Solution.** Recall that the logistic model gives population size as $P(t) = \frac{c}{1 + ae^{-bt}}$. So here, we have c = 500, a = 83.33, and b = 0.162. (a) The carrying capacity is parameter c, so the carrying capacity is c = 500 .

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Solution (continued). (b) The growth rate is b (if b > 0), so the growth rate is b = 0.162.

(c) When t = 3 years, the population will be $P(3) = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.162(3)}} = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.486}} \approx 9.57.$ Rounding up, when t = 3 years, there will be 10 eagles in the population.

Solution (continued). (b) The growth rate is b (if b > 0), so the growth rate is b = 0.162.

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(d) The population will be 300 when $P(t) = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.162t}} = 300$, or when $\frac{1}{1+83.33e^{-0.162t}} = 300/500 = 3/5$, or $1+83.33e^{-0.162t} = 5/3$, or $83.33e^{-0.162t} = 2/3$, or $e^{-0.162t} = (2/3)/83.33$, or $\ln e^{-0.162t} = \ln 2/((3)(83.33))$, or $-0.162t = \ln 2/249.99$, or $t = -(\ln 2/249.99)/0.162 \approx 29.80$ years.

Solution (continued). (b) The growth rate is b (if b > 0), so the growth rate is b = 0.162.

(c) When t = 3 years, the population will be $P(3) = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.162(3)}} = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.486}} \approx 9.57$. Rounding up, when t = 3 years, there will be 10 eagles in the population . (d) The population will be 300 when $P(t) = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.162t}} = 300$, or when $\frac{1}{1+83.33e^{-0.162t}} = 300/500 = 3/5$, or $1+83.33e^{-0.162t} = 5/3$, or $83.33e^{-0.162t} = 2/3$, or $e^{-0.162t} = (2/3)/83.33$, or $\ln e^{-0.162t} = \ln 2/((3)(83.33))$, or $-0.162t = \ln 2/249.99$, or $t = -(\ln 2/249.99)/0.162 \approx 29.80$ years.

Solution (continued). (e) The population reaches one-half of the carrying capacity when the population is size 500/2 = 250, so we consider $P(t) = \frac{500}{1+83.33e^{-0.162t}} = 250$. This gives $\frac{1}{1+83.33e^{-0.162t}} = 250/500 = 1/2$, or $1+83.33e^{-0.162t} = 2$, or $83.33e^{-0.162t} = 1$, or $e^{-0.162t} = 1/83.33$, or $\ln e^{-0.162t} = \ln 1/83.33$, or $-0.162t = \ln 1/83.33$, or $t = -(\ln 1/83.33)/0.162 \approx 27.30$ years.