

Logistic Model: A population $y(t)$ at time t satisfies

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky - ly^2 \quad (*)$$

for k, l constants, l much smaller than k . This is a separable differential equation since we can re-write it as

$$\frac{1}{ky - ly^2} \frac{dy}{dt} = 1 \quad (*)$$

we "integrate both sides" to solve $(*)$

$$\int \frac{1}{ky - ly^2} dy = \int dt \quad (**)$$

For the LHS we need partial fractions.

$$\frac{1}{ky - ly^2} = \frac{1}{y(k - ly)} = \frac{A}{y} + \frac{B}{k - ly}$$

$$\frac{1}{y(k - ly)} = \frac{A(k - ly) + By}{y(k - ly)}$$

$$1 = A(k - ly) + By$$

$$y=0: \quad 1 = Ak$$

$$\boxed{A = \frac{1}{k}}$$

$$y = \frac{k}{l} \quad 1 = B \frac{k}{l}$$

$$\boxed{B = \frac{l}{k}}$$

So (**) becomes

$$\frac{1}{k} \int \frac{1}{y} dy + \frac{l}{k} \int \frac{1}{k - ly} dy = \int dt$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \ln|y| - \frac{1}{k} \ln|k - ly| = t + C$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \ln \left| \frac{y}{k - ly} \right| = t + C$$

$$\ln \left| \frac{y}{k-ly} \right| = kt + c$$

$$\frac{y}{k-ly} = e^{kt} \boxed{e^c}$$

A

$$\frac{y}{k-ly} = A e^{kt}$$

$$y = A e^{kt} (k-ly)$$

$$y + A e^{kt} ly = A k e^{kt}$$

$$y(1 + A l e^{kt}) = A k e^{kt}$$

$$y = \frac{A k e^{kt}}{1 + A l e^{kt}}$$

As $t \rightarrow \infty$ we have

$$y \rightarrow \frac{A k e^{kt}}{A l e^{lt}} = \frac{k}{l}.$$

Thus the world population will, according to our model, tend to a constant size $\frac{k}{l}$.

• Ecologists have estimated

$$k = 0.029.$$

• when $y = (3.06) 10^9$ the population was increasing at 2% per year.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky - ly^2$$

$$\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dt} = k - ly$$

$$0.02 = k - l(3.06)10^9$$

Since we know k , we can find

$$l = 2.941 \times 10^{-12}$$

So the world population should tend to

$$\frac{k}{l} = \frac{0.024}{2.941} 10^{12} = 9.86 \text{ billion people}$$