

Differential Equation Handout A

① The rate of change of concentration inside the cell is $\frac{dC}{dt}$

Thus $\frac{dC}{dt} = k(L - C)$ where k is the proportionality constant.

Since the concentration of the solute in the cell is increasing over time k is positive.

② a) $\frac{dI}{dt} = kI(N - I)$

Proportionality constant Number of people who are not sick

b) If $\frac{dI}{dt}$ is positive, number of people who are sick is increasing.

If $\frac{dI}{dt}$ is negative, number of people who are sick is decreasing.

Observe that $(N-I)I \geq 0$ always. \odot

Thus if $k > 0$ $\frac{dI}{dt} > 0$ and thus the number of people who are infected is always

increasing. (this is the most plausible scenario)

If $k < 0$ $\frac{dI}{dt} < 0$ and the number of

people infected is always decreasing.

Given that $k > 0$, people will stop getting infected only when $\frac{dI}{dt} = 0$.

But this will only happen when $N=I$, which means that everyone is sick. Thus the model suggest that everyone will get infected at the end

3) a) $\frac{dM}{dt} = \text{rate}(M) = .04M$

Initial condition: $t=0$ $M=2000$ $\frac{dM}{dt} = 80$

b) Since money is also added to the account

in this case $\frac{dM}{dt} = rM + 1000 = .04M + 1000$

Initial condition $t=0$ $M=2000$ $\frac{dM}{dt} = 1080$

$\frac{dI}{dt} = 0$

But this will only happen when $N=I$, which

means that everyone is sick. Thus the

model suggest that everyone will get

infected at the end.

(4) According to the logic of compound interest, Elmer's debt is changing with the rate.

$$\frac{dB(t)}{dt} = B \cdot r - 12000$$

↑
interest
accumulated
at time t .

↑
amount paid

$$= \underline{0.0725 \cdot B - 12000}$$

3. $y' = y - 1$. The slopes at each point are independent of x , so the slopes are the same along each line parallel to the x -axis. Thus, IV is the direction field for this equation. Note that for $y = 1$, $y' = 0$.
4. $y' = y - x = 0$ on the line $y = x$, when $x = 0$ the slope is y , and when $y = 0$ the slope is $-x$. Direction field II satisfies these conditions. [Looking at the slope at the point $(0, 2)$, II looks more like it has a slope of 2 than does direction field I.]
5. $y' = y^2 - x^2 = 0 \Rightarrow y = \pm x$. There are horizontal tangents on these lines only in graph III, so this equation corresponds to direction field III.
6. $y' = y^3 - x^3 = 0$ on the line $y = x$, when $x = 0$ the slope is y^3 , and when $y = 0$ the slope is $-x^3$. The graph is similar to the graph for Exercise 4, but the segments must get steeper very rapidly as they move away from the origin, because x and y are raised to the third power. This is the case in direction field I.