

Mathematics 172

Quiz 25

Name: Key

You must show your work to get full credit.

This is to clarify something that caused some confusion on Test 2. We have two notions of unconditional growth: discrete and continuous.

For discrete growth we have a population N_t where $t = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$. If r is the pre capita growth rate, then N_t satisfies

$$N_{t+1} = N_t + rN_t = (1 + r)N_t.$$

If $\lambda = 1 + r$, then this can also be written as

$$N_{t+1} = \lambda N_t$$

and the solution is

$$N_t = N_0 \lambda^t.$$

For the continuous version of unconstrained growth we have a population size $P(t)$ depending on $t \geq 0$ (sometimes this is called a continuous variable) and if r is the intrinsic growth rate (note this is not the same as the per capita growth rate) then this satisfies the rate equation (= differential equation)

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

which has the solution

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{rt}.$$

1. If a population is modeled with a unconstrained discrete population growth and $N_0 = 10$ and $N_4 = 25$

(a) What is the equation satisfied by N_t ?

The equation is

$$N_{t+1} = (1+r)N_t$$

or

$$N_{t+1} = \lambda N_t$$

(b) Give a formula for N_t .

$$N_t = 10 \lambda^t$$

$$N_4 = 10 \lambda^4 = 25$$

$$N_t = \frac{10 (1.2574)^t}{\lambda^4 = 25/10}$$

$$\lambda = (25/10)^{1/4} = 1.2574$$

(c) What is the per capita growth rate?

$r =$

$$r = \lambda - 1 = 0.2574$$

$$0.2574$$

(d) What is N_{10} ?

$$N_{10} = 10 (1.2574)^{10}$$

$N_{10} =$

$$98.795$$

2. If a population is modeled with a unconstrained continuous model and $P(0) = 10$ and $P(4) = 25$

(a) What is the rate equation satisfied by $P(t)$?

The equation is
$$p' = rP$$

or
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = rP$$

(b) Find a formula for $P(t)$. $P(t) = \frac{10e^{0.2291t}}{1}$

$P(4) = 10e^{4r}$
 $P(4) = 10e^{4r} = 25$
 $e^{4r} = \frac{25}{10}$

$4r = \ln(25/10)$
 $r = \ln(25/10) = 0.2291$

(c) What is the intrinsic growth rate?

$r = 0.2291$

(d) What is $P(10)$?

$P(10) = 10e^{0.2291(10)}$
 $= 98.85$

If had used more decimal places this would be the same as 1(c)

(e) What is the per capita growth rate of this population?

The rate is 0.2575

The population at $t=1$ is

$P(1) = 10e^{0.2291(1)} = 12.575$

The change in population is

$\Delta P = P(1) - P(0)$
 $= 12.575 - 10 = 2.575$

so the per capita change is

$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = \frac{2.575}{10} = 0.2575$

so this is (up to 3 decimal places) the same as 1(e).