

LOGISTIC POPULATION MODEL

In the logistic population model, the population growth rate obeys

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = r\left(1 - \frac{P}{c}\right)P, \quad P(0) = P_0.$$

To solve this equation, we proceed as follow

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dP}{dt} = r\left(1 - \frac{P}{c}\right)P &\iff C\frac{dP}{dt} = r(C - P)P \\ &\Rightarrow \int \frac{CdP}{(C - P)P} = r \int dt + C_0 \\ &\Rightarrow \int \left(\frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{C - P}\right) dP = rt + C_0 \\ &\Rightarrow \ln|P| - \ln|C - P| = \ln\left|\frac{P}{P - C}\right| = rt + C_0 \\ &\Rightarrow \left|\frac{P}{C - P}\right| = e^{rt+C_0} = e^{C_0}e^{rt} = C_1e^{rt} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{P}{C - P} = \pm C_1e^{rt} = C_2e^{rt}. \end{aligned}$$

C_2 is an unknown constant. In the third line, we have used the partial fraction, i.e., for some constants A, B to be determined

$$\frac{C}{(C - P)P} = \frac{A}{P} + \frac{B}{C - P} = \frac{A(C - P) + BP}{(C - P)P} = \frac{AC - AP + BP}{(C - P)P}.$$

An easy computation shows $A = 1 = B$.

From the last step, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{P}{C - P} = C_2e^{rt} &\iff P = (C - P)C_2e^{rt} \\ \iff P = CC_2e^{rt} - C_2e^{rt}P &\iff (C_2e^{rt} + 1)P = CC_2e^{rt} \\ \iff P = \frac{CC_2e^{rt}}{1 + C_2e^{rt}} &= \frac{CC_2}{C_2 + e^{-rt}}. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging in the initial condition $P(0) = P_0$, we obtain

$$P_0 = \frac{CC_2}{C_2 + e^0} = \frac{CC_2}{C_2 + 1} \Rightarrow C_2 = \frac{P_0}{C - P_0},$$

Finally, we reach

$$P(t) = \frac{CP_0}{P_0 + (C - P_0)e^{-rt}}.$$