

Quiz 2 tomorrow: 30 mins 9am - 10pm

OH 11am - noon today

Goals for Day 5:

- Learn the definition of autonomous ODEs.
- Learn how to identify equilibrium solutions to autonomous ODEs.
- Make qualitative statements about the long-term behavior of solutions to autonomous ODEs

Autonomous ODEs

An important type of first-order ODE is one in which the independent variable does not appear.

Def. A first-order ODE is called autonomous if it has the form

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(y).$$

Autonomous ODEs are somewhat "blind to time".

Ex • Newton's law of cooling: $u' = k(T_0 - u)$, $\begin{cases} k \\ T_0 \end{cases}$ const.

- Bacteria growth: $p' = r \cdot p$, r is const
- Simple pendulum: $\theta'' = \frac{g}{L} \sin \theta$ (2nd order), $\begin{cases} g \\ L \end{cases}$ are const.
- (non-example): Varying the oven temperature
 $u' = k(T_0 + A \sin(\omega t) - u)$, $\begin{cases} k, T_0, A, \omega \\ \text{are const.} \end{cases}$

Principle: If our system has constant ambient conditions, then the ODE is probably autonomous.

Observation. First-order, autonomous ODEs are separable. But that doesn't mean they're easy!

Ex $y' = e^{-y^2} \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = e^{-y^2}$

$$\rightarrow \int e^{y^2} dy = \int dt$$

A major source of autonomous first-order ODEs is given by population models.

Simple population models

Say a population grows in proportion to its current value, with proportion r .

Then it obeys the ODE

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = r \cdot p$$

Notice that this ODE is autonomous.

Also, we can solve it!

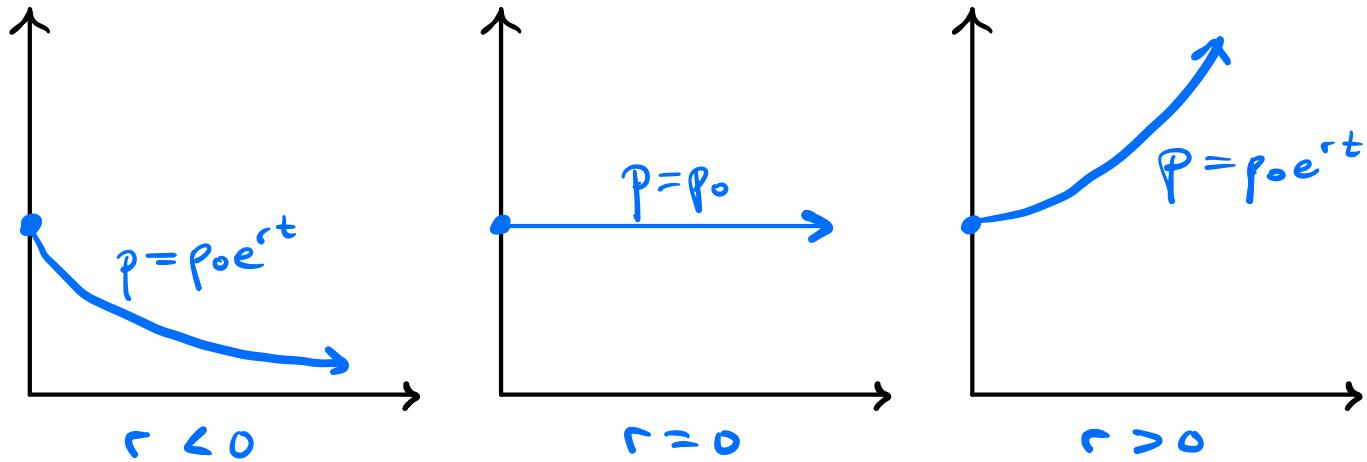
Linear: $\frac{dp}{dt} - r \cdot p = 0$. Homogeneous

$p = e^{rt}$ solves this ODE

\therefore general sol'n is $p = Ce^{rt}$

Given an initial condition $P(0) = P_0$, we get

$$P_0 = Ce^0 \rightarrow C = P_0 \rightarrow P = P_0 e^{rt}$$



This model isn't great:

It allows P to grow without bound.

In reality, various constraints (space, food, natural resources) will force the population to stop growing.

So the rate of growth r should vary with P .

Note: If we want our ODE to be autonomous, then r is a function of P alone. (Doesn't depend directly on time.)

Logistic model

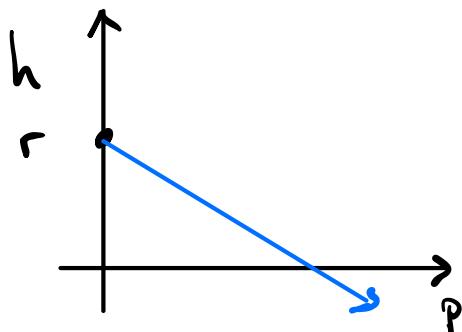
New idea: the growth rate r depends on p ,
so our ODE looks like

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = h(p) \cdot p$$

this is our (changing)
rate of growth

The function $h(p)$ should satisfy:

- $h(p) \approx r > 0$ when $p \approx 0$;
- $h'(p) < 0$;
- $h(p) < 0$ if $p \gg 0$. is much greater
than



Simplest possibility:

$$h(p) = r - a \cdot p$$

for some $a > 0$.

So our ODE is now

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = (r - a \cdot p)p$$

This is often called the logistic model.

The rate r is called the intrinsic growth rate.

Traditionally, we factor r out of the RHS :

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = r \left(1 - \frac{a}{r} \cdot p\right) p = r \left(1 - \frac{p}{K}\right) p$$

where $K = a/r$. We call K the carrying capacity, for reasons we'll soon see.

Let's find the equilibrium solutions of this ODE:

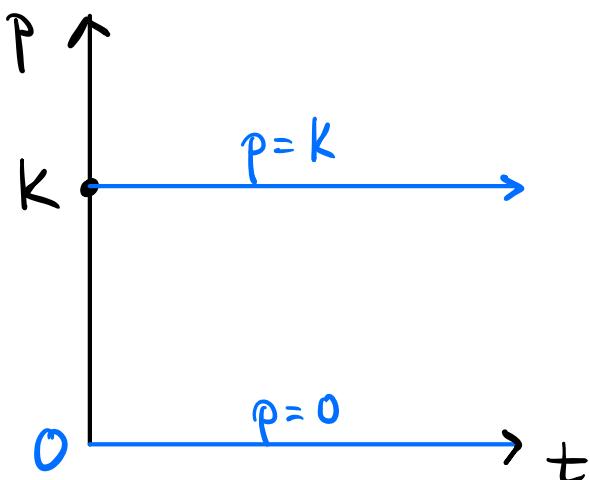
i.e., we want $\frac{dp}{dt} = 0 \leftarrow$ sol'ns that are constant

$$p' = 0 \rightarrow r \cdot \left(1 - \frac{p}{K}\right) \cdot p = 0$$

$$\therefore 1 - \frac{p}{K} = 0 \quad \text{OR} \quad p = 0$$

$$p = K \quad \text{or} \quad p = 0$$

We can now plot these solutions on the $t p$ -plane:

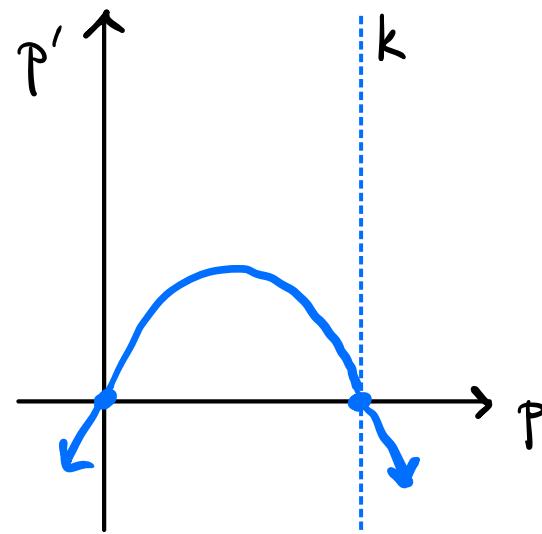


Next, let's try to say something about the non-equilibrium solutions.

We have

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = r \left(1 - \frac{P}{K}\right) P,$$

so we can plot P' as a function of P



Two cases to consider:

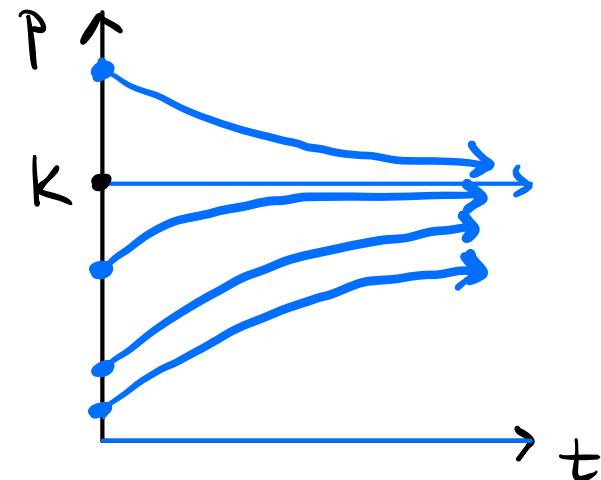
$$0 < P < K$$

$$\rightarrow P' > 0$$

$$K < P$$

$$\rightarrow P' < 0$$

Let's add to our t_P -plot.



Conclusion: In the long term, the population will tend towards K, unless it starts at 0.

Notice that both 0 and K were equilibrium solutions, but only one of them was approached by non-equilibrium solutions. Let's investigate the stability of equilibrium solutions.

Stability, asymptotic stability, and instability

For the ODE $y' = f(y)$, an equilibrium solution y_0 satisfies $f(y) = 0$.

We call y_0 a stable equilibrium if $y(0) \approx y_0 \implies \underline{y(t) \approx y_0}$, for all $t > 0$.

Otherwise, y_0 is an unstable equilibrium.

We call y_0 an asymptotically stable equilibrium if whenever we have $y(0) \approx y_0$, then

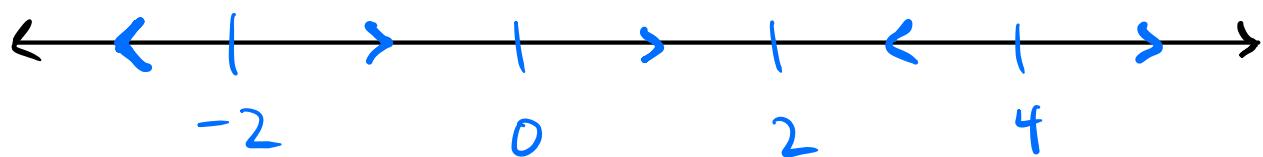
(i) $y(t) \approx y_0$, for all $t > 0$;

and (ii) $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = y_0$.

Note: For now, stable will pretty much always mean asymptotically stable; this will matter more for systems.

Ex. Analyze the equilibria of
 $y' = (y+2)y^2(y-2)(y-4)$.

Equilibria:



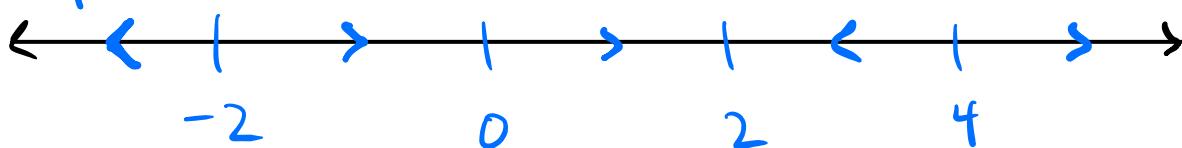
$$\begin{array}{ll} y < -2 & \rightarrow y' = (-)(+)(-)(-) < 0 \\ -2 < y < 0 & \rightarrow y' = (+)(+)(-)(-) > 0 \\ 0 < y < 2 & \rightarrow y' = (+)(+)(-)(-) > 0 \\ 2 < y < 4 & \rightarrow y' = (+)(+)(+)(-) < 0 \\ 4 < y & \rightarrow y' = (+)(+)(+)(+) > 0 \end{array}$$

stable : 2
unstable : -2, 0, 4

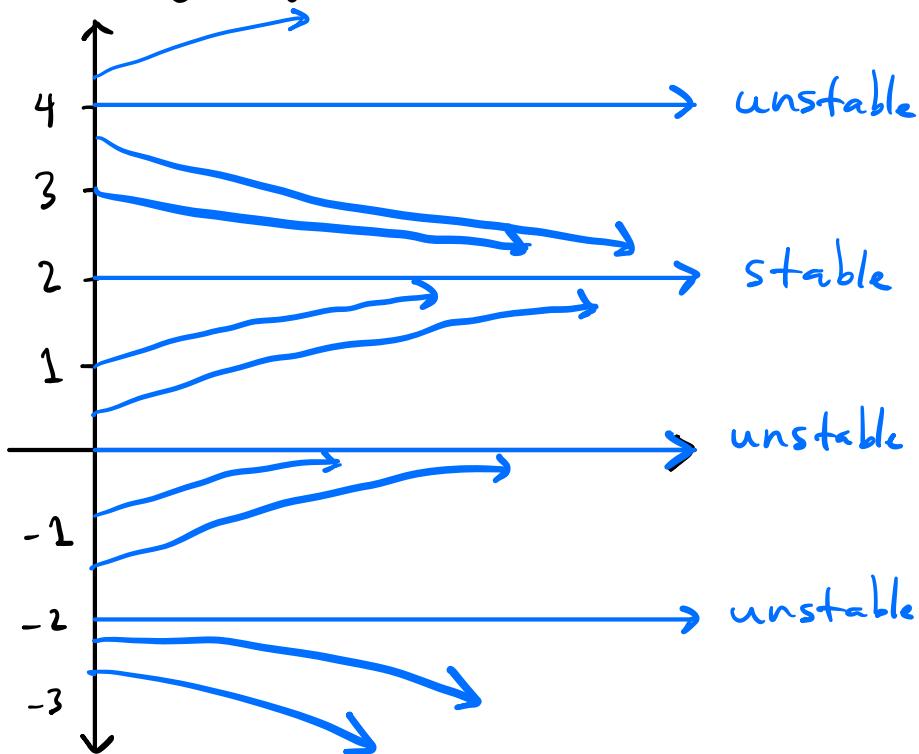
Semi-stable : 0 asymptotically stable : 2

We can use this info to produce two important graphics:

(1) a phase line or 1D phase portrait



(2) plots of y against t



Stable-but-not-asymptotically-stable is much more common in systems of ODEs rather than single ODEs, but here's an example:

$$y' = \begin{cases} y^2 \sin(\frac{1}{y}), & y \neq 0 \\ 0, & y = 0 \end{cases}$$

(We won't investigate this in class.)

Critical thresholds

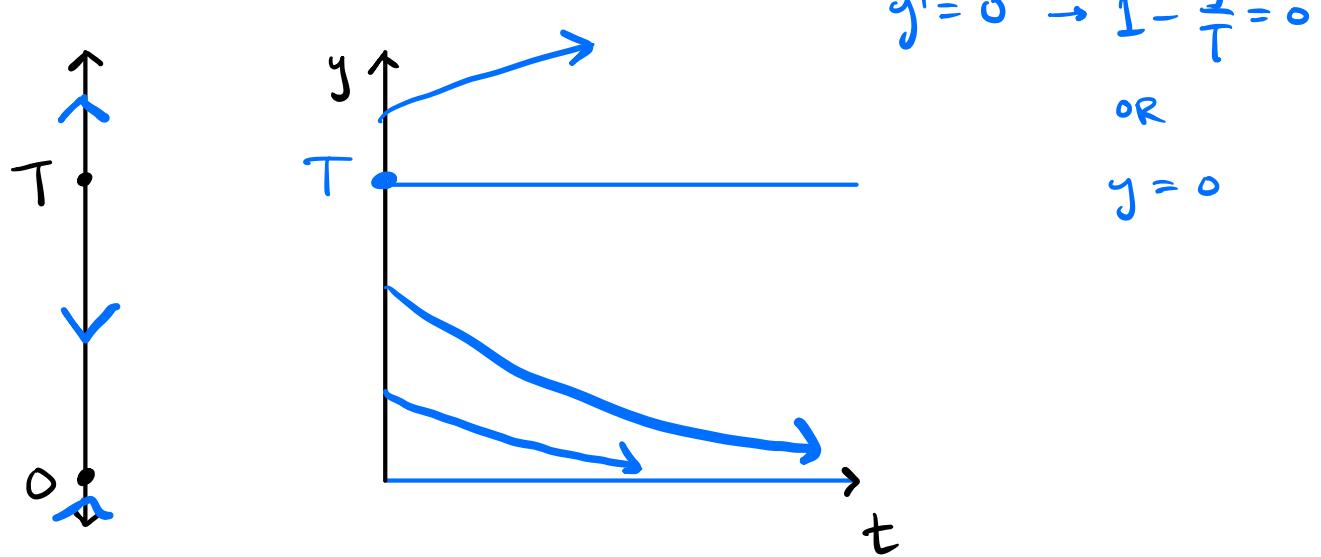
Consider the ODE

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -r \left(1 - \frac{y}{T}\right)y,$$

for some constants $r > 0$ & $T > 0$.

This autonomous ODE arises in population dynamics and in fluid mechanics (kind of).

Let's do our qualitative analysis:



This time, the stable equilibrium solution is 0.

Idea: When the population falls below a certain threshold, extinction will follow.

This ODE has some strange behavior, though.
Let's solve it.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -r \left(1 - \frac{y}{T}\right)y \rightarrow \frac{dy}{\left(1 - \frac{y}{T}\right)y} = -r dt$$

$$T \int \frac{dy}{(T-y)y} = \int -r dt$$

$$\frac{1}{(T-y)y} = \frac{A}{T-y} + \frac{B}{y}$$

$$1 = Ay + B(T-y)$$

$$@ y=0 : 1 = A \cdot 0 + B \cdot T \rightarrow B = \frac{1}{T}$$

$$@ y=T : 1 = A \cdot T + B \cdot 0 \rightarrow A = \frac{1}{T}.$$

$$\frac{1}{(T-y) \cdot y} = \frac{\frac{1}{T}}{T-y} + \frac{\frac{1}{T}}{y}$$

$$\text{So } T \int \frac{dy}{(T-y)y} = \int \frac{dy}{T-y} + \int \frac{dy}{y}.$$

Hw: Finish solving.

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$$-\ln|T-y| + \ln|y| = \int -r dt = -rt + C$$

$$\therefore \ln\left|\frac{T-y}{y}\right| = rt + C$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{T-y}{y} = Ae^{rt} \rightarrow T-y = Ae^{rt} \cdot y$$

$$\therefore T = y(1 + Ae^{rt}) \rightarrow y = \frac{T}{1 + Ae^{rt}}$$

Given the initial condition $y(0) = y_0$, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} y_0 &= g(0) = \frac{T}{1+A} \rightarrow (1+A)y_0 = T \\ &\rightarrow A y_0 = T - y_0 \rightarrow A = \frac{T - y_0}{y_0}. \end{aligned}$$

$$y = \frac{T}{1 + \left(\frac{T-y_0}{y_0}\right)e^{-rt}} = \frac{y_0 T}{y_0 + (T-y_0)e^{-rt}}$$

Now the strange part: what's the interval of existence?

$$\begin{aligned} y_0 + (T-y_0)e^{-rt} &\neq 0 \rightarrow (T-y_0)e^{-rt} \neq -y_0 \\ &\rightarrow e^{-rt} \neq \frac{y_0}{y_0-T} \rightarrow t \neq \frac{1}{r} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{y_0}{y_0-T}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$y_0 < T \rightarrow (0, \infty)$$

$y_0 > T \rightarrow$ interval of existence depends on y_0

So some of our solutions have finite-time blow up.

Our qualitative analysis didn't catch this.

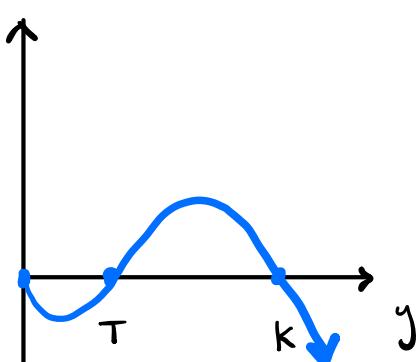
One last population model

Let's combine the nice qualities of our logistic model with our critical thresholds:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -r \left(1 - \frac{y}{T}\right) \left(1 - \frac{y}{k}\right)y,$$

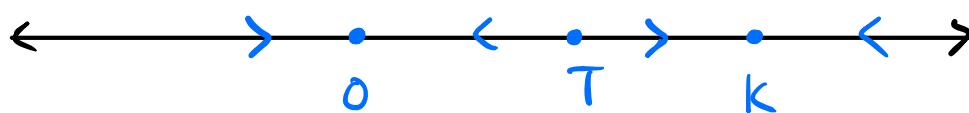
for some $r > 0$ and $0 < T < k$.

Step 1: Plot y' as a function of y .

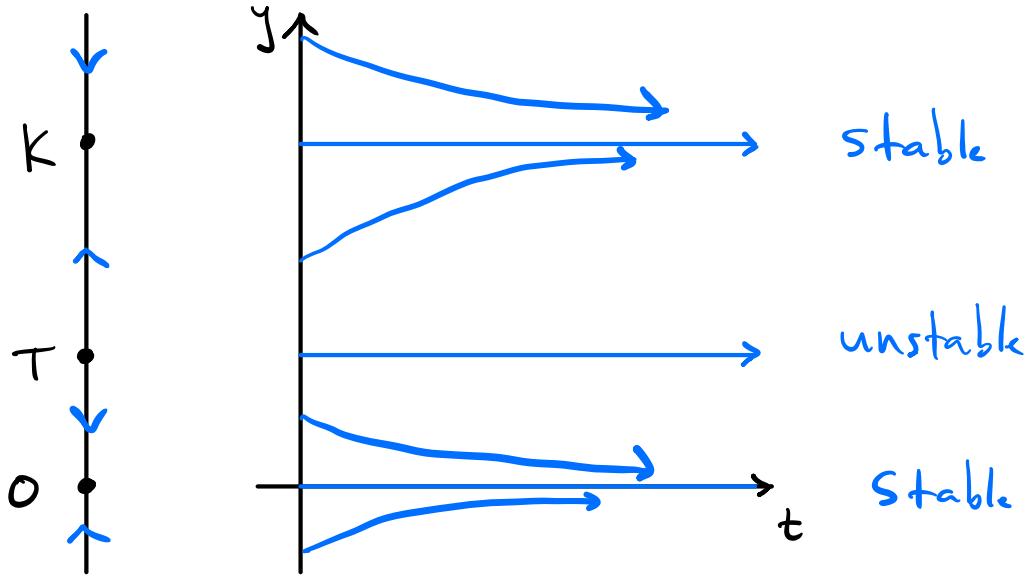


Step 2: I identify equilibria.

$y=0$, $y=T$, and $y=k$



Step 3: Sketch some solutions



This is a logistic model with threshold.