

World Population

Let $y(t)$ be the population at time t .

The Logistic model is :

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

where k, l are constants, and l is much smaller than k .

Equation (*) is separable :

$$\frac{1}{ky - ly^2} \frac{dy}{dt} = 1$$

The solution is given by

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

Suppose

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

Let's find A & B.

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

So

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

$$1 = Ak + (B - Al)y$$

Need

$$1 = Ak$$

$$0 = B - Al$$

So

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

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

Thus

$$\frac{1}{ky - ly^2} = \frac{1}{ky} + \frac{l}{k^2 - kly}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{ky - ly^2} dy = \frac{1}{k} \int \frac{k}{ky} dx + \int \frac{l}{k^2 - kly} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{k} \int \frac{k}{ky} dy - \frac{1}{k} \int \frac{-kl}{k^2 - kly} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{k} \ln(ky) - \frac{1}{k} \ln(k^2 - kly)$$

Thus an anti-derivative
of $f(y) = \frac{1}{ky - ky^2}$ is

$$F(y) = \frac{1}{k} \ln(ky) - \frac{1}{k} \ln(k^2 - ky)$$

$$F(y) = \frac{1}{k} (\ln(ky) - \ln(k^2 - ky))$$

$$F(y) = \frac{1}{k} \ln\left(\frac{ky}{k^2 - ky}\right)$$

$$F(y) = \frac{1}{k} \ln\left(\frac{y}{k - y}\right)$$

Equation ① becomes

$$\frac{1}{k} \ln\left(\frac{y}{k - y}\right) = t$$

$$\Leftrightarrow kt = \ln\left(\frac{y}{k - y}\right)$$

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

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

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

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

$$\text{so } y \rightarrow \frac{k}{l} \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

Concluding: The logistic model implies that the population of the world will tend to some constant population $\frac{k}{l}$.

We can estimate k
and l from past populations.

An estimate, using 1950,
1960 and 1970 the
limiting population is

$$y(t) \rightarrow \frac{k}{l} \approx 9.86 \text{ billion.}$$