

A model for the spread of disease

Suppose we want to model the spread of an infectious disease.

Simplifying assumptions:

- Nobody dies from it!
- Recovery always takes 14 days.
- You're contagious during those 14 days.
- You cannot get it twice.

Notation:

I = # of infected people.

R = # of recovered people (i.e., already had it).

S = # of susceptible people (i.e., haven't had it yet).

Rates of change: I' , R' , S' .

Units: _____ per day.

Q: If I people are currently infected, how many of them do you expect will recover today?
_____.

So,

$$R' =$$

True or false?

I' = # of people who get infected per day.

S' = -(# of people who get infected per day).

To write an equation for S' , first note that on any given day, the number of people who get infected depends on the number of susceptible people who come into contact with infected people:

-If everything else was the same except there were twice as many *susceptible people*, how would this affect the number of people who become infected?

So,

$$S' \propto$$

-If everything else was the same except there were twice as many *infected people*, how would this affect the number of people who become infected?

So,

$$S' \propto$$

These combine to give

$$S' =$$

What about I' ? It should equal

(# of people who get infected per day) - (# of people who _____).

So,

$$I' =$$

Using Euler's Method on the SIR model

Suppose we're given:

$$S' = -.00001SI$$

$$I' = .00001SI - I/14$$

$$R' = I/14$$

with initial values at time $t = 0$ (in units of days):

$$S(0) = 45400, I(0) = 2100, R(0) = 2500.$$

(a) Find $S'(0)$, $I'(0)$, and $R'(0)$.

(b) Estimate $S(1)$, $I(1)$, $R(1)$.

(c) Using Euler's Method with $\Delta t = 1$, repeat parts (a) and (b) above to find the number of infected people on the fourth day ($t = 4$).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homework, due Wednesday, 9/16/98:

CiC (Calculus in Context), section 1.1 : 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17.