Math 129 Sect. 20

Midterm 2 Practice Problems

Oct. 9, 2007

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- Sect. 9.1 Sequences: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 49, 53
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Problem. The half life of a drug in the human body is 6 hours. That is, if a patient is given 20 mg of the drug, only 10 mg will remain in her system after 6 hours.

- 1. Assume that t hours after one dose of A mg, the amount of drug which remains is Ae^{-bt} . Find the value of b.
- 2. Suppose the patient is given A mg of the drug every T hours. Let Q_n be the amount in her body just after the *n*th dose. Find a recursion relation for Q_n in terms of Q_{n-1} , A, and T. (You will need the value of b you found above.)
- 3. Let Q_n be as above. Find an explicit expression for Q_n . That is, find Q_n in terms of just n, A, and T.
- 4. After a large number of doses, the amount Q_n will approach the limit $Q = \lim_{n \to \infty} Q_n$. Find an expression for Q in terms of A and T.
- 5. It is dangerous for anyone to have more than 100 mg of the drug in their system at any given time. If the amount A we administer each time is 20 mg, and if we want to make sure that the limiting amount is Q = 50 mg (so the patient does not overdose), how often should we administer the drug? *Hint: in your answer from Part 4, set A* = 20 and Q = 50, and solve for T.