

Laboratory 7: Modelling with first order differential equations

1. Find the decay constant for a radioactive substance for the given half-life value
 - (a) $T_{1/2} = 5730$ years for C^{14}
 - (b) $T_{1/2} = 4,468 \cdot 10^9$ years for U^{238}
 - (c) $T_{1/2} = 706 \cdot 10^6$ years for U^{235}
2. In two years 3 g of radioisotope decay to 0,9 g. Find the half-life and the decay constant.
3. (Carbon dating of Shroud from Turin) In 1988 three independent dating tests revealed that the quantity of C^{14} in the shroud was between 91.57% and 93.021%. Using the decay constant for C^{14} found in the previous exercise determine when shroud was made.
4. Suppose that in the case of a crime the victim body was discovered at 11.00 o'clock. The legist medic arrives at 11.30 and measures the victim body temperature and he gets $34.22^\circ C$. An hour later, he takes, again, the body temperature and he gets $34.11^\circ C$. Supposing that the room temperature is $21^\circ C$ estimate the time of the death.
5. Find room temperature variation in a summer day knowing that the outside temperature variation is given by the function $T_{out}(t) = 35 \cdot e^{-\frac{(t-12)^2}{74}}$ (the time variable is measured in hours, $t = 0$ means the midnight, notice that at $t = 12$, the midday, we have the highest outside temperature of $35^\circ C$ and at the midnight we have the lowest outside temperature, aprox. $5^\circ C$). Suppose that the initial room temperature at $t = 0$ is $T_0 = 15^\circ C$ and the room thermic coefficient is $k = 0.2 \cdot hours^{-1}$. Plot the solution on a day interval $[0; 24]$ and estimate the time when the room temperature is highest.