

Homework assignment 3*

Due date: Monday April 13, 2009.

1. In class we solved McKendrick's problem:

$$u_a(a, t) + u_t(a, t) = -d(a)u(a, t),$$

with

$$BC : u(0, t) = B(t), \text{ and } IC : u(a, 0) = u_0(a).$$

Here we consider the special case where the survival function is exponential:

$$l(a) = e^{-\mu a}, \text{ for some } \mu > 0.$$

- Find the instantaneous death rate $d(a)$.
- Find the basic reproduction number R_0 (i.e. the expected number of offspring per female over her lifetime) if the maternity function is given by:

$$m(a) = \begin{cases} 0, & a \in [0, \mu/2] \\ m, & a \in (\mu/2, 3\mu/2) \\ 0, & a > 3\mu/2 \end{cases}$$

- Assuming that the age distribution is such that for all $t > 0$:

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} u(a, t) = 0,$$

show that the total population

$$N(t) = \int_0^{\infty} u(a, t) da$$

satisfies the linear ODE:

$$\dot{N}(t) = B(t) - \mu N(t).$$

*MAP 4484; Instructor: Patrick De Leenheer.