

1. A salt brine tank has pure water flowing in at 10 L/min. The contents of the tank are mixed thoroughly and continuously. The brine flows out at 10 L/min. Initially, the tank contains 150 L of brine, at a concentration of 5 g/L. Follow the steps below to determine the concentration of brine after 30 minutes, and the limiting concentration of the brine.

- (a) Let  $S(t)$  = amount of salt in the tank at time  $t$  (in g)  
and let  $C(t)$  = concentration of salt in the tank at time  $t$  (in g/L)  
 $C(0) = \frac{5 \text{ g/L}}{\hspace{10em}}$

$$S(0) = \frac{5 \text{ g/L} \times 150\text{L} = 750\text{g}}{\hspace{10em}}$$

Write  $C(t)$  in terms of  $S(t)$ :

$$C(t) = \frac{\frac{S(t) \text{ g of salt}}{150 \text{ L}}}{\hspace{10em}}$$

- (b) Now write a differential equation describing how fast is the salt is leaving the tank.

$$\text{Solution: } \frac{dS}{dt} = C(t) \frac{\text{g of salt}}{\text{L}} \times -10 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{min}} = -\frac{S}{150} \cdot 10 \frac{\text{g of salt}}{\text{min}} = -\frac{S}{15} \frac{\text{g of salt}}{\text{min}}$$

- (c) Solve the initial value problem  $\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{S}{15}$ ,  $S(0) = 750$ .

**Solution:** Separate variables:

$$\int \frac{dS}{S} = - \int \frac{1}{15} dt$$

$$\ln |S| = -\frac{1}{15}t + C$$

$$S = Ae^{-\frac{t}{15}}$$

Substitute  $t = 0$ ,  $S = 750$ :

$$S = 750e^{-\frac{t}{15}}$$

- (d) What is the concentration when  $t = 30$ ?

$$\text{Solution: } S(30) = 750e^{-2}, \text{ so } C(30) = \frac{750e^{-2}}{150} = \frac{5}{e^2}$$

- (e) What is the limiting concentration of the brine?

**Solution:**  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} 750e^{-\frac{t}{15}} = 0$ . This makes sense because we are adding pure water into the brine, so it gets increasingly dilute. In the limit, there is nothing left.

2. As before, a salt brine tank contains 150 L of brine at a concentration of 5 g/L. But this time brine at a concentration of 2g/L is pumped into the tank at a rate of 10 L/min. The contents of the tank are mixed thoroughly and continuously and the brine flows out at 10 L/min. Follow the steps below to determine how long until the concentration is 3 g/L, and what the limiting concentration is.

- (a) Again, let  $S(t)$  = amount of salt in the tank at time  $t$  (in g)  
and let  $C(t)$  = concentration of salt in the tank at time  $t$  (in g/L)

$$C(0) = \frac{5 \text{ g/L}}{\underline{\hspace{10em}}}$$

$$S(0) = \frac{5 \text{ g/L} \times 150\text{L} = 750\text{g}}{\underline{\hspace{10em}}}$$

Write  $C(t)$  in terms of  $S(t)$ :

$$C(t) = \frac{\frac{S(t) \text{ g}}{150 \text{ L}}}{\underline{\hspace{10em}}}$$

- (b) How fast is salt entering the tank?

$$\text{Solution: } 2 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{L}} \times 10 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{min}} = 20 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{min}}$$

- (c) How fast is salt leaving the tank?

$$\text{Solution: } C \frac{\text{g}}{\text{L}} \times 10 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{min}} = \frac{S}{150} \times 10 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{min}} = \frac{S}{15} \frac{\text{g}}{\text{min}}$$

- (d) What is the net change of the salt in the tank,  $\frac{dS}{dt}$ ?

$$\text{Solution: } \frac{dS}{dt} = 20 - \frac{S}{15}$$

- (e) Solve the initial value problem  $\frac{dS}{dt} = 20 - \frac{S}{15}$ ,  $S(0) = 750$ .

**Solution:** Separate variables:

$$\int \frac{1}{20 - \frac{S}{15}} dS = \int dt$$

$$\int \frac{1}{300 - S} dS = \int \frac{1}{15} dt$$

$$\int \frac{1}{S - 300} dS = \int -\frac{1}{15} dt$$

$$\ln |S - 300| = -\frac{1}{15}t + C$$

$$S - 300 = Ae^{-\frac{1}{15}t}$$

Now substitute  $t = 0$ ,  $S = 750$ :

$$A = 450$$

$$S = 450e^{-\frac{1}{15}t} + 300 \text{ g}$$

- (f) When is  $C(t) = 3$  g/L? What is the limiting concentration?

**Solution:** We are looking for when  $S(t) = 450$ .

$$150 = 450e^{-\frac{1}{15}t}, \text{ giving } \frac{1}{3} = e^{-\frac{1}{15}t}, \text{ solving for } t \text{ gives } t = 15 \ln 3.$$

Now  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (450e^{-\frac{1}{15}t} + 300) = 300$ . So the limiting concentration is  $C = \frac{300}{150} = 2$  g/L.