# Welcome to Math 102 Section 107 

Krishanu Sankar

MWF 8:00-8:50 AM, LSK 200

## Math 102: Announcements

- Instructor: Krishanu Sankar
- Email: ksankar@math.ubc.ca
- Course website: https://wiki.math.ubc.ca
- Today:
- Course information
- Cell size and power functions


## Assignments and Grading

- Homework
- WeBWork (online, $3 \mathrm{x} /$ week) - $10 \%$ ( $5 \%$ points dropped)
- Old-School Homework (written, 6 total) - 10\%


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- Final exam (Date TBD) - 50\% (44\% rule)


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- Friday:
- 8-8:50 am: Lecture \& OSH or Quiz


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- All questions regarding registration or sectioning should be directed to Mark MacLean or Margaret Ness.
- Lectures will be interactive with prompts and clicker questions. (register your iClicker on Connect)
- I'd like to thank Eric Cytrynbaum, Leah Edelstein-Keshet, and Cole Zmurchok, whose slides were the basis for these lectures.


## Why are cells so small?


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_blood_cell/media/File:SEM_blood_cells.jpg

- WBCs are 12-15 microns in diameter.
- Cells absorb nutrients through their surface, and use the nutrients in their interior. Must have nutrient absorption rate $\geq$ consumption rate, or the cell dies!
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1. Absorption rate is proportional to surface area.
2. Consumption rate is proportional to volume.

## A mathematical model



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$C=k_{2} V$

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$$
A=k_{1} S=k_{1} 4 \pi r^{2}
$$

2. Consumption rate is proportional to volume

$$
C=k_{2} V=k_{2} \frac{4}{3} \pi r^{3}
$$

where $k_{1}$ and $k_{2}$ are positive constants.

## Cell shape

$$
A(r)=4 \pi k_{1} r^{2} \quad C(r)=\frac{4}{3} \pi k_{2} r^{3}
$$

Q1. Which of the following is true?
A. Absorption is greater than consumption for sufficiently large cells and vice versa for small cells.
B. Consumption is greater than absorption for sufficiently large cells and vice versa for small cells.
C. Both A and B are possible, depending on $k_{1}$ and $k_{2}$.

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## Power functions

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## Example

$$
A(r)=\left(4 \pi k_{1}\right) r^{2} \quad \text { and } \quad C(r)=\left(\frac{4}{3} \pi k_{2}\right) r^{3}
$$

are power functions with independent variable $r$.

## Power functions

Q2. Match!
A. Red: $x^{3}$, blue: $x^{2}$, purple: $x^{5}$, yellow: $x^{4}$.
B. Red: $x^{5}$, blue: $x^{4}$, purple: $x^{3}$, yellow: $x^{2}$.
C. Red: $x^{3}$, blue: $x^{4}$, purple: $x^{5}$, yellow: $x^{2}$.

D. Don't know, please $x$ explain.

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## Cell size

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A(r)=4 \pi k_{1} r^{2} \\
& C(r)=\frac{4}{3} \pi k_{2} r^{3}
\end{aligned}
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Consumption is greater than absorption for sufficiently large cells and vice versa for small cells.

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$$
\begin{aligned}
A(r)=4 \pi k_{1} r^{2} & >\frac{4}{3} k_{2} \pi r^{3}=C(r) \\
r & <3 \frac{k_{1}}{k_{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Does this make sense with the plot above?

## Limit on cell size

Q3. Which of the following cells can survive?
A. $r<3 \frac{k_{1}}{k_{2}}$
B. $r=3 \frac{k_{1}}{k_{2}}$
C. $r>3 \frac{k_{1}}{k_{2}}$

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What about bigger cells, such as neurons, Caulerpa prolifera, or eggs?

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- Cell size and mathematical models
- Power functions: $f(x)=a x^{2}$ versus $g(x)=b x^{3}$. Which is bigger? For which $x$ ?

