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### LAW OF NATURAL GROWTH OR DECAY:

If the rate of change of a quantity  $y$  at any time  $t$  is proportional to  $y$ , then

$$\frac{dy}{dt} \propto y \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

If  $k$  is the constant of proportionality, then the required differential equation is

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

where  $k$  is a real constant.

For growth,  $k > 0$  and the differential equation is

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k y \quad (k > 0) \quad \text{----- (3)}$$

For decay,  $k < 0$  and the differential equation is

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ky \quad (k > 0) \quad \text{----- (4)}$$

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