

# One last word problem

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The rate of change of air pressure (in kPa) with respect to height (in m) is approximately proportional to the pressure. If the pressure is 100 kPa when  $h=0$  and  $p=80$  kPa when  $h=2000$ m, find the expression relating pressure and height.

$$\frac{dp}{dh} = kp$$

now solve it!

$$\frac{dp}{p} = k dh$$

$$\ln p = kh + C$$

$$p = e^{kh+C} = e^{kh} e^C$$

$$p = C_1 e^{kh}$$

$$\text{when } h=0, p=100$$

$$100 = C_1 e^{\cancel{0}}$$

$$p = 100 e^{kh}$$

$$\text{when } h=2000, p=80$$

$$80 = 100 e^{k \cdot 2000}$$

$$\frac{8}{10} = e^{2000k}$$

$$\ln 0.8 = 2000k$$

$$k = \frac{\ln 0.8}{2000}$$

$$P = 100 e^{\frac{\ln 0.8}{2000} h}$$