

**PILOT LEARNING  
CALCULUS II ENGINEERING  
PROBLEM-SET 5  
FALL 2019**

- (1) Psychologists interested in learning theory study learning curves. A learning curve is the graph of a function  $P(t)$ , the performance of someone learning a skill as a function of the training time  $t$ . The derivative  $dP/dt$  represents the rate at which performance improves.
- (a) Based on your own learning experience, sketch what you think a typical learning curve looks like.
- (i) When do you think  $P$  increases most rapidly?  
(ii) What happens to  $dP/dt$  as  $t$  increases?
- (b) If  $M$  is the maximum level of performance of which the learner is capable, explain why the differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = k(M - P)$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant, is a reasonable model for learning.

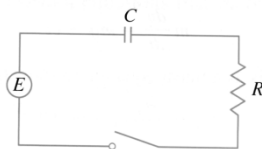
- (c) Make a rough sketch of a possible solution of this differential equation. How does this graph compare to the one that you drew in (a)?
- (2) Consider the differential equation  $y' = x + y^2$ .
- (a) Sketch the direction field of the differential equation.  
(b) Then use it to sketch a solution curve that passes through the point  $(0,0)$ .
- (3) Solve the following differential equations
- (a)

$$\frac{dv}{ds} = \frac{s + 1}{sv + s}$$

(b)

$$\frac{dy}{d\theta} = \frac{e^y \sin^2 \theta}{y \sec \theta}$$

- (4) Find an equation of the curve that passes through the point  $(0,1)$  and whose slope at  $(x, y)$  is  $xy$ .
- (5) The figure below shows a circuit containing an electromotive force, a capacitor with a capacitance of  $C$  farads (F), and a resistor with a resistance of  $R$  ohms ( $\Omega$ ).



The voltage drop across the capacitor is  $Q/C$ , where  $Q$  is the charge (in coulombs). In this case, Kirchhoff's Law gives

$$RI + \frac{Q}{C} = E(t)$$

The rate at which the capacitor is charging equals  $I = dQ/dt$ , therefore,

$$R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} = E(t)$$

- (a) Suppose the resistance is  $5 \Omega$ , the capacitance is  $0.05 \text{ F}$ , a battery give a constant charge of  $60 \text{ V}$ , and the initial charge is  $Q(0) = 0 \text{ C}$ . Find the charge and current at time  $t$ .
- (b) Suppose the resistance is  $2 \Omega$ , the capacitance is  $0.01 \text{ F}$ , the initial charge is  $Q(0) = 0 \text{ C}$ , and  $E(t) = 10 \sin 60t$ . Find the charge and current at time  $t$ .