## AP FRQ Review: Differential Equations

1) Non-Calculator

At time $t = 0$, a boiled potato is taken from a pot on a stove and left to cool in a kitchen. The internal temperature of the potato is 91 degrees Celsius (°C) at time $t = 0$, and the internal temperature of the potato is greater than 27°C for all times $t > 0$. The internal temperature of the potato at time $t$ minutes can be modeled by the function $H$ that satisfies the differential equation $\frac{dH}{dt} = -\frac{1}{4}(H - 27)$, where $H(t)$ is measured in degrees Celsius and $H(0) = 91$.

(a) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of $H$ at $t = 0$. Use this equation to approximate the internal temperature of the potato at time $t = 3$.

(b) Use $\frac{d^2H}{dt^2}$ to determine whether your answer in part (a) is an underestimate or an overestimate of the internal temperature of the potato at time $t = 3$.

(c) For $t < 10$, an alternate model for the internal temperature of the potato at time $t$ minutes is the function $G$ that satisfies the differential equation $\frac{dG}{dt} = -(G - 27)^{2/3}$, where $G(t)$ is measured in degrees Celsius and $G(0) = 91$. Find an expression for $G(t)$. Based on this model, what is the internal temperature of the potato at time $t = 3$ ?

2) Non-Calculator

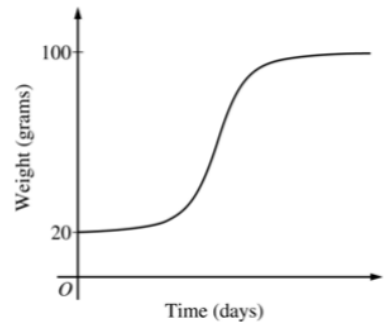
The rate at which a baby bird gains weight is proportional to the difference between its adult weight and its current weight. At time $t = 0$, when the bird is first weighed, its weight is 20 grams. If $B(t)$ is the weight of the bird, in grams, at time $t$ days after it is first weighed, then

$$\frac{dB}{dt} = \frac{1}{5}(100 - B).$$

Let $y = B(t)$ be the solution to the differential equation above with initial condition $B(0) = 20$.

(a) Is the bird gaining weight faster when it weighs 40 grams or when it weighs 70 grams? Explain your reasoning.

(b) Find $\frac{d^2B}{dt^2}$ in terms of $B$. Use $\frac{d^2B}{dt^2}$ to explain why the graph of $B$ cannot resemble the following graph.




(c) Use separation of variables to find $y = B(t)$, the particular solution to the differential equation with initial condition $B(0) = 20$.

3) Non-Calculator

At the beginning of 2010, a landfill contained 1400 tons of solid waste. The increasing function $W$ models the total amount of solid waste stored at the landfill. Planners estimate that $W$ will satisfy the differential equation $\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{1}{25}(W - 300)$ for the next 20 years. $W$ is measured in tons, and $t$ is measured in years from the start of 2010.

(a) Use the line tangent to the graph of $W$ at $t = 0$ to approximate the amount of solid waste that the landfill contains at the end of the first 3 months of 2010 (time $t = \frac{1}{4}$).

(b) Find $\frac{d^2W}{dt^2}$ in terms of $W$. Use $\frac{d^2W}{dt^2}$ to determine whether your answer in part (a) is an underestimate or an overestimate of the amount of solid waste that the landfill contains at time $t = \frac{1}{4}$.

(c) Find the particular solution $W = W(t)$ to the differential equation $\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{1}{25}(W - 300)$ with initial condition $W(0) = 1400$.

4) Non-Calculator

Solutions to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^3$ also satisfy $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = y^3\left(1 + 3x^2y^2\right)$. Let $y = f(x)$ be a particular solution to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^3$ with $f(1) = 2$.

(a) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of $y = f(x)$ at $x = 1$.

(b) Use the tangent line equation from part (a) to approximate $f(1.1)$. Given that $f(x) > 0$ for $1 < x < 1.1$, is the approximation for $f(1.1)$ greater than or less than $f(1.1)$? Explain your reasoning.

(c) Find the particular solution $y = f(x)$ with initial condition $f(1) = 2$.