

Chit chat is defined in the Oxford English Dictionary as light talk or gossip. The date given for its first use is 1710. The word chat, in the sense we are talking about was used by Shakespeare 1597 or thereabouts in the Taming of the Shrew, derived from the word *chattern* in Middle English, a mimic or onomatopoeic word for the certain sound of birds. In California bird watchers are familiar with the Yellow Breasted Chat. To chat, is short for chatter, and to chit is short for chitter, a word echo. All of this is very interesting, information easily obtainable, in a few minutes of superficial inquiry. This, I confess having done when I first had the privilege of attending a club meeting about a year ago. But what of the 1710 date, the date given for chit-chat in the OED? Who originated the term and what were the circumstances? Here perhaps was a subject for a paper. This was a period I knew was crucial in the political and social and literary history of England and indirectly with the United States. Macaulay called this the Age of Enlightenment. It was a period that saw the end of the Stuart kings of England and the end of the pretensions of *le Roi Soliel*, Louis XIV of France and his dream of European dominance. It was the period of the so-called Augustinian Period of English Literature. It saw the rise of English political parties and the start of English predominance on the world scene. It also saw the birth of experimental Science and the demise of witchcraft. Raw sewage still ran through the streets of a London that was being progressively transformed architecturally after the disastrous fire of 1666, Rampant with disease, infant mortality was fifty percent or more and life expectancy a mere 35 years. Flamboyantly dressed and bewigged men walked the unpoliced streets attended by bodyguards. They were as liberally perfumed as their mistresses and wives often going weeks without a bath. Political loyalties were characterized by expediency and men were passionate about money, sex and religion in about that order.



As background permit me to briefly refresh your memory relative to English history of the preceding 17th Century, in order to give a sense of the political heritage which was the baggage of the early 18th. The period was important in shaping the unwritten constitution of Britain in defining the role of government and the responsibilities of king and Parliament. The conflict between the adherents of the Church of England and Catholicism, the old faith, which originated during the reign of Henry VIII continued on. Added to this were conflicts brought about by the rise Puritan fundamentalist sects, referred to as Dissenters. All of this was reflected in the politics of the time.

The death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603, without issue saw the end of the Tudors, a family line which originated after the death of that arch villain Richard III at Bosworth Field. Elizabeth's grandfather, Henry Tudor had been crowned Henry VII in 1485. The Wars of Religion in France in the 16th Century and the Thirty Years War in Germany in the 17th had no real counterparts in England though English religious strife led to the deaths many famous and not so famous both Protestant and Catholic, usually the result of quasi juridical processes, rather than war. James I assumed the throne to start the Stuart dynasty and religious contention remained a prominent theme in English politics. The persecution of Catholics was given a new excuse by the exposure of Guy Fawkes and his gunpowder plot in 1605. His attempt to blow up Parliament on the 5th of November is still remembered, with rhyme and fireworks. Upon the death of James his son Charles I took over, only to lose in his battle with Parliament over money and his supposed divine rights. The English Civil War between the

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is well-posed in the sense of Hadamard. The second part is devoted to the construction of the solution. The third part is devoted to the study of the properties of the solution. The fourth part is devoted to the study of the stability of the solution. The fifth part is devoted to the study of the convergence of the solution. The sixth part is devoted to the study of the error of the solution. The seventh part is devoted to the study of the numerical solution. The eighth part is devoted to the study of the application of the solution. The ninth part is devoted to the study of the conclusion. The tenth part is devoted to the study of the references.

King's supporters and those of Parliament ultimately cost him his head after being convicted of treason at Westminster in 1649. The English were uncomfortable under the Roundhead republican rule of the Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell and the strictures of Puritanism. With his death and that of his son the monarchy was re-established in 1660. The resumed Stuart monarchy of Charles II, besides being notoriously licentious saw in England a reaction against the austere Puritanism of the interregnum. There was renewed persecution of Quakers and other Dissenters which resulted in further emigration of to the colonies. Charles, in constant need of money, though a Protestant, was secretly bribed by Louis XIV to relax the restrictions on English Catholics. The will however, to protect Anglicanism in the Parliament was too strong and strictures remained.

Charles II died in 1685 with the name of his famous mistress, the beautiful but illiterate actress Nell Gwyn on his lips: "Don't let Nelly starve!". He was without legitimate offspring. His brother James, the Duke of York, a confessed Catholic was next on the throne. The perceived threat of the return of "popery" was opposed by the Whig party set against the Tories, supporters of James II, and the divine right of the monarch over those of Parliament. This was the issue that led to the creation of the first true political parties in England.

Parliamentary parties originally began in England with the advent of parliamentary predominance in the 1640's. Initially there was a court party after the restoration opposed by a country party. In 1679 the court supporters took the name Tory which was derived from the Irish *Tar a Ri*, "Come, oh king". The opposition name of Whig came from the Scottish *Whiggam* or horse thief, applied to Presbyterian Scots who were opposed



to the old religion. Although issues changed over the years and positions necessarily shifted over time, the names stuck and persisted long into the 19th Century. There was even an American Whig party supporting decentralization prior to the Civil War whose members included Daniel Webster and Henry Clay. In late 17th Century, the English Whig Party made up largely of big landowners were maintainers of parliamentary power and toleration for dissenters while the Tories, small landholders, shopkeepers and clergy, identified their rights with those of the Crown along with non-toleration of religious dissent.

The Catholic James II was forced from the throne in 1688 and his daughter by his first wife, Mary and her husband and cousin, William of Orange, both strong Protestants were invited to come from Holland to take the throne. A new era of tolerance took shape. The religious Toleration Act of 1689 started England on a long road toward complete religious tolerance. This act removed the disabilities on most non-conformists. For Catholics and Jews and Unitarians however, disabilities remained. For them religious freedom and official toleration would have to wait until the 19th Century. Recall that it took a special act of Parliament to finally permit Lionel Rothschild, a Jew, to take his elected seat.

Queen Mary died of Smallpox in 1694. William III was thrown from a horse and died in 1702. Perhaps the most famous Englishman of the time was Winston Churchill's ancestor John Churchill. He started out as a loyal courtier to James II and an able military commander. He had been created the Duke of Marlborough by King William for his efforts in the conspiracy that brought William and his wife, Mary to the throne in the Glorious Revolution. Marlborough became one of the most powerful men in England when Queen Anne, Mary's obese sickly sister

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ascended to the throne upon William's death. Marlborough's success at court owed much to Anne's passionate friendship with Marlborough's wife, the lovely Sarah. Marlborough was a strong Whig, and Whigs were favored by this last of the Stuarts. Queen Anne, the wife of the sottish Prince George of Denmark, had been pregnant no less than 17 times but had no surviving children. As was King William, Whigs were uniformly hostile to the French. Marlborough, Captain General of the British army was appointed Commander in Chief of the Allied forces arrayed against Louis XIV in the War of the Spanish Succession; a war initiated by William in the year prior to his death in order to maintain the balance of power in Europe. As a result of Marlborough's military genius the Duke became the most celebrated and honored man of his time.

The War of the Spanish Succession, little remembered today, was designed to crush the military power of the French and to decide the fate of the vast Spanish Empire. At the time besides Spain, the Spanish domains included parts of the Netherlands, Italy, much of the Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America as well as the Philippine Islands. The King of Spain had died without issue and had willed the throne on his deathbed to the grandson of Louis XIV. The idea that the French king would control this vast Spanish empire as well as his own, both in Europe and in America, was intolerable to the English, the Dutch and to Louis' continental rival, Austria under the Hapsburgs. Marlborough in frequent association with the brilliant Prince Eugene of Savoy, defeated the French in a series of decisive battles: Blenheim (1704), Ramillies (1706) and Oudenarde (1708). His final battle of Malplaquet in 1709 though a tactical victory cost the British 30% casualties, and their Dutch Allies 50% ! This appalling loss of life, resulted in a strategic victory for the anti-war Tories at home and was an excuse for Marlborough's dismissal. The British ended the war with the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, leaving the Bourbon king still on the

The first part of the paper discusses the historical background of the problem. It is shown that the problem has been studied since the time of the ancient Greeks. The second part of the paper discusses the mathematical theory of the problem. It is shown that the problem is equivalent to a certain type of differential equation. The third part of the paper discusses the numerical solution of the problem. It is shown that the problem can be solved by using a certain type of numerical method. The fourth part of the paper discusses the applications of the problem. It is shown that the problem has many applications in physics and engineering. The fifth part of the paper discusses the conclusions of the paper. It is shown that the problem is a very interesting and important one. The sixth part of the paper discusses the references. It is shown that the problem has been studied by many other authors.

Spanish throne cynically leaving their allies to continue the fight alone, thus the expression: *perfidious Albion*. However, Louis' military strength was exhausted. England now had a monopoly on the American slave trade and permanent possession of Gibraltar. She had become the undisputed ruler of the sea and a world power. The blood of Malplaquet and fatigue of war, Lady Sarah's fall from favor with the Queen and accusations of impropriety against Marlborough, brought about the fall of the anti-French Whigs and the voluntary banishment of the Marlborough's to the continent. Marlborough only returned to influence along with the Whigs upon the Queen's death. By the Act of Settlement of 1701, the Protestant George Lewis, Elector of Hanover, was the next in line. He came from Germany, speaking no English and took the throne as George I in 1714. Thus ended the 100 year Stuart dynasty and the start of the Hanovarian which continues today.

It was in 1643 that the poet Milton wrote in his *Aeropagetica*, "Give me liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to my conscience above all other liberties". Long standing and traditional censorship of the press and books in England finally came to an end in 1695 under William III when Parliament refused to renew the Licensing Act. This act had severely restricted the importation of books as well as the free publication of books, periodicals and other materials. In 1709 the copyright law was passed; for the first time a law to protect authors and publishers and not the government. With changes and additions it has served as a model for copyright law ever since. The result was a virtual explosion of English printed materials of all sorts, from one page throw-aways to elaborate atlases and bibles. It was in this period the first newspapers and journals appeared.

In 1702 there was formed an informal drinking and eating club in London named after the proprietor of the tavern and pie house where the club met:

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work done during the year. It is followed by a detailed account of the various projects undertaken and the results achieved. The report concludes with a summary of the work done and a list of the names of the persons who have been engaged in the work.

The second part of the report deals with the financial statement of the year. It shows the total amount of the income and the expenditure and the balance at the end of the year. It also shows the details of the various items of income and expenditure and the names of the persons who have been engaged in the work.

Christopher Cating at the Sign of the Cat and Fiddle, Shire Lane near Temple Bar. Such clubs in London had existed previously and it is known that over a century before, Sir Walter Raleigh and his cronies would meet regularly in a local tavern, to smoke, eat, drink and of course, to talk. The term *club* in this sense, as well as the word *clump* derive from the same low German root and came into use in the 17th Century. The formal English social clubs as we now know them, did not come into existence in London until some two generations later, around 1750. Cating as well as his tavern were famous for his meat pies which he called Kit-Cats. The Kit-Cat Club however, was started by a publisher, Jacob Tonson and was made up of thirty-nine and later forty-eight members, all of the Whig party. Members elected by common consent included many famous politicians, artists and writers of the period. Among the best known were Marlborough himself, future prime minister Sir Robert Walpole; men of letters: William Congreve, Joseph Addison, Richard Steele, Dr. Samuel Garth; politicians: Lords Kingston, Halifax and Somers, the painter Sir Godfrey Kneller, and the architect of Blenheim Palace, Vanbrugh. Later on, the Kit-Cat Club met at Fountain Tavern, in the Strand and ultimately at Barn Elms, Surrey, the home of Tonson who had a special room built for the weekly meetings. The primary purpose of the club was to eat and drink but there is no doubt that much of the conversation was political in nature. Club members were all dedicated to the Protestant Hanovarian succession over the Old and later the Young Pretender, Catholic Stuarts, son and grandson respectively of James II, who were all exiles together in France. Tonson was the prime mover. A successful publisher of Dryden, Garth and later, Pope, it was thought that Tonson often held the Club parties at his own expense wanting to have first crack at any budding new writers who might show up. He had made much of his fortune in the Mississippi Scheme, but he was successful in his trade with his brother, as stationer,

The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country. It is noted that the economy is still in a state of stagnation and that the government has failed to implement the necessary reforms. The report then goes on to discuss the various sectors of the economy, including agriculture, industry, and services. It is pointed out that the agricultural sector is particularly affected by the lack of investment and the outdated technology. In the industrial sector, the report notes that the government has failed to attract foreign investment and that the local industries are struggling to compete with imports. The services sector is also mentioned, with a note that the government has failed to improve the infrastructure and the quality of services. The report concludes by stating that the government must take urgent action to reform the economy and to improve the living standards of the population.

members to share equally in the expenses of each meeting, six or seven shillings; that is to *club his share*, to use the expression. No minutes of their meetings are known to exist but in his publication the *Tattler*, Steele often mentioned the club and described their particular habit of making toasts of famous beautiful ladies. A ballot was carried out and the winners reigned, being celebrated, wined and dined for the next year as club guests. When the toasts were determined their names were scratched with a diamond on a drinking glass along with appropriate laudatory verses.

One of the Kit-Cat toasts was the teenager Mary Pierrepont, daughter of member Lord Kingston. She later lost her famous beauty to the facial scars of smallpox, but gained world renown as Lady Wortley Montague, the noble woman who introduced smallpox inoculation to Britain. This practice which originated in the middle east entailed the deliberate infection of smallpox by inoculating through a scratch in the skin, purulent infectious matter from the pustule of a patient with a mild case of the disease. The resulting infection, hopefully a non-fatal and mild one, would give permanent immunity and presumably cause less scarring than that from disease naturally acquired. In so doing, innumerable lives were saved in this era before Jenner and his much safer vaccination.

The Club ended around 1720, mostly through attrition, but not before its members had their portraits painted by fellow member Sir Godfrey Kneller. Kneller was born in Holland but made his name in London as a society portrait artist after the restoration. It is from this that the name Kit-Cat is still with us. It seems that Tonson's clubroom had too low a ceiling to permit the hanging of portraits of the conventional full or half length size. Kneller had to be satisfied with a canvas sized to include only the sitter's head, torso and one hand : about 28x36 inches. This configuration has been known ever since as a

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Kit-Cat portrait. There are 42 of these portraits of club members which remain hanging today in the National Portrait Gallery in London. Mezzotints were also made from them, first published by Tonson in 1723.

The man known as the *Kit-Cat poet* was Sir Samuel Garth. He was the only doctor in the Club and his practice included royalty as well as his fellow members. Garth gave a well received eulogy at Dryden's funeral in 1700. He wrote many poems but had become famous for his long poem in mock heroic verse defending practice of the Royal College of Physicians giving away free medications to the poor. The poem, *The Dispensary* published in 1699 was very popular and widely reprinted, to the consternation of the apothecaries who made their living selling drugs and were understandably jealous of their prerogatives and incomes. However it was Pope, also a member who wrote about their club :

Whence deathless Kit-Cat took its name,  
Few critics can unriddle;  
Some say from pastry-cook it came,  
And some from Cat and Fiddle.

From no trim beaux its name it boasts,  
Gray statesmen or green wits;  
But from this pell-mell pack of toasts,  
of old "Cats" and young "Kits".

Richard Steele was a playwright and poet and Kit-Cat member. Born in Ireland, he matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford before finally settling in London. He wrote for and edited several periodicals during the early years of the 18th century. Along with his friend poet and playwright, Joseph Addison, they made the *Tatler* (1709-11), and then the *Spectator* (1711-12), famous for their essays of satire and political and social commentary. Their literary efforts remain in print today and provide a vivid picture of the time. After *Tatler* and *Spectator* came other periodicals edited by Steele generally critical of the Tory ministry including a short-lived journal curiously named

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is followed by a detailed account of the military operations in the West and the East. The author then discusses the political and economic conditions of the country and the impact of the war on the population. The report concludes with a summary of the author's views on the future of the country and the world.

The second part of the report deals with the military operations in the West. It begins with a description of the German offensive in the spring of 1917 and the subsequent Allied counter-offensive. The author then discusses the strategic and tactical aspects of the campaign and the role of the various military units. The report concludes with a summary of the author's views on the military situation in the West.

The third part of the report deals with the military operations in the East. It begins with a description of the Russian offensive in the spring of 1917 and the subsequent German counter-offensive. The author then discusses the strategic and tactical aspects of the campaign and the role of the various military units. The report concludes with a summary of the author's views on the military situation in the East.

*Chit-Chat* . While the more brilliant but mercurial Addison died of drink at a young age, Steele, though the same age, lived on to be knighted by George I, failing in more than a few business deals. He never seemed to be able get out of debt. He finally had to leave London for the country in 1724 to die prematurely of a stroke in 1729 at 57.

As the 17th century turned into the 18th the English speaking world was being set for the modern era. Newton was preparing a new world of modern science. Locke had earlier prepared the nation for the advent of political democracy. Publishing would become widespread. Defoe and Swift were to write the first novels to change fiction writing forever. Classical writers would be widely available in English for the first time, translated by Garth, Pope and others. Religious contention would diminish, while political wars of a scale which few could imagine were in the offing. The Act of Union had created Great Britain from England and Scotland in 1707. Great Britain was destined to become the world's pre-eminent power for the next two centuries. The exploitation of the new world of America, discovered 200 years earlier, still incompletely explored in 1700, was just beginning.

Futurists can only speculate about the next two centuries. I do not think those around 1700 had any better idea of what was ahead than we do as the year 2000 approaches. Are we on the threshold of new science? Is the United States of the 21st century destined to be the Great Britain of the 18th? Are we entering an age of creativity analogous to the Augustinian? Do we have new worlds to explore and conquer? Are we any better prepared to deal with the political and social problems of the world than they were?

The first part of the paper discusses the general theory of the firm, focusing on the relationship between the firm's production function and its cost function. It is shown that the firm's cost function is derived from its production function and its input prices. The second part of the paper discusses the firm's profit function, which is derived from its cost function and its output price. The firm's profit function is shown to be a concave function of the firm's output level. The third part of the paper discusses the firm's supply curve, which is derived from its profit function. The firm's supply curve is shown to be an upward-sloping curve. The fourth part of the paper discusses the firm's demand curve, which is derived from its profit function. The firm's demand curve is shown to be a downward-sloping curve. The fifth part of the paper discusses the firm's equilibrium, which is determined by the intersection of its supply and demand curves. The firm's equilibrium output level is shown to be a function of its input prices and its output price.

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As the 20th century turns into the 21st, there is no Kit-Cat Club, but there is our Chit-Chat Club, related in spirit to those men who met in London 200 years ago. They like us, survived a tumultuous century to look critically at their present and hopefully to their future. Those were men of imagination, wit and intelligence who considered good food, drink and camaraderie an appropriate environment for creative thinking. In this sense, I would like to think we were like them.

ARTHUR E. LYONS

March 10, 1997

The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the car was the smell of fresh air. It was a relief after the stuffy interior. I looked around and saw a few people walking towards the entrance. The building was old but well-maintained. I took a deep breath and walked towards the door. The door was slightly ajar, and I pushed it open. Inside, the room was dimly lit, and I could hear the faint sound of music. I walked further in and saw a group of people sitting at tables. They were talking and laughing. I felt a bit out of place. I looked at my watch and saw that it was late. I decided to go to the bar. I walked towards the bar and saw a bartender behind the counter. I ordered a drink and waited. The bartender was friendly and gave me a smile. I took a sip of my drink and felt the liquid on my tongue. It was good. I looked at the bartender and saw that he was looking at me. I smiled back at him. He gave me a nod and went back to work. I took another sip of my drink and looked around the room. The music was soft and pleasant. I felt relaxed. I looked at my watch again and saw that it was even later. I decided to go back to the car. I walked towards the door and saw that the door was closed. I knocked on the door and saw that the door was still closed. I looked at my watch and saw that it was very late. I decided to call a taxi. I took out my phone and dialed the number. A taxi arrived in a few minutes. I got into the taxi and told the driver where to take me. The taxi drove to the car. I got out of the taxi and saw that the car was still there. I walked towards the car and saw that the door was open. I got into the car and started the engine. I drove home and felt tired but happy.

APPENDIX A  
 APPENDIX B



FROM JACOB TONSON'S MEZZOTINT REPRODUCTIONS OF KNELLER'S PORTRAITS OF THE KIT-KAT CLUB MEMBERS.

