

3.5 Related Rates

- In a RELATED RATES problem we are given the rate of change of one quantity and asked to find the rate of change of a related quantity
- To accomplish this we need a formula that relates the two quantities and then differentiate wrt time

For example: If the volume of a sphere is $\frac{dV}{dt}$ decreasing at certain rate, how fast is the radius decreasing?

$$V = \frac{4\pi r^3}{3}$$

Given: $\frac{dV}{dt}$

Asked for: $\frac{dr}{dt}$

HINTS Pg 143 → Problem solving ideas

(1) What are you given? What are you looking for?

Know:

Want:

(2) Can you find a formula to relate the quantities?

(3) Draw a picture!

(4) RTFQ2X → make sure you know what they're asking!

(5) UNITS COUNT!

Ex 1 If $xy^2 = 12$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = 6$, find $\frac{dx}{dt}$ when $y = 2$

$f \cdot g' + f' \cdot g$

$\frac{d}{dt}(xy^2) = \frac{d}{dt}(12)$

$x \cdot 2y \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + 1 \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} \cdot y^2 = 0$

$\frac{dx}{dt} \cdot y^2 = -2xy \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$

$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{-2xy \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}}{y^2} = \frac{-2(3) \cdot 6}{2} = -18$

-18 unit/time

Ex #2

How fast is the area of a square increasing when the side is 3m in length and growing at a rate of 0.8m/min?

Know when $x=3m$

Want:

$$\frac{dA}{dt} \quad \left(\frac{m^2}{min} \right)$$

$$x \quad \boxed{A=x^2}$$

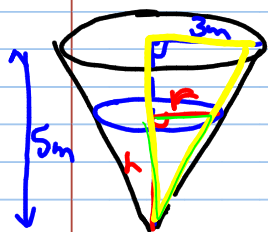
$$A=x^2$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0.8 \frac{m}{min}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 2x \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 2 \cdot 3m \cdot 0.8 \frac{m}{min} = 4.8 \frac{m^2}{min}$$

3 A conical water tank is 5m high and has a diameter of 6m at the top. Water is being pumped into the tank at a rate of $1.6 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$. Find the rate



at which the water level is rising when the water is 2m deep.

Know:

- cone-shaped
- $r=3, h=5$
- $h=2\text{m}$
- $dV/dt = 1.6 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$

Want:

- $\frac{dh}{dt}$

How do $r+h$ relate?

$$\frac{r}{h} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$r = \frac{3h}{5}$$

Formula:

$$V = \frac{\pi r^2 h}{3} = \frac{\pi \left(\frac{3h}{5}\right)^2 \cdot h}{3}$$

$$V = \frac{3\pi h^3}{25}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = 3 \cdot \frac{3\pi}{25} \cdot h^2 \cdot \frac{dh}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{9\pi}{25} h^2 \cdot \frac{dh}{dt}$$

↓

$$1.6 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{min}} = \frac{9\pi}{25} (2\text{m})^2 \cdot \frac{dh}{dt}$$

$$\frac{1.6 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{min}}}{\frac{9\pi}{25} \cdot 4 \text{m}^2} = \frac{10}{9\pi} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{min}}$$

or 0.3537 m/min