

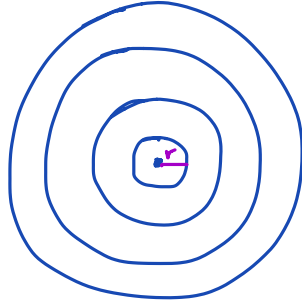
WORKSHEET: Problem Solving Strategy in Related Rates

MATH 110, Wednesday, Jan 10

Answer the questions following each scenario.

1. You walk alongside a calm lake and you throw a rock into the lake. Since the lake is calm, ripples in the shape of concentric circles are formed on the water.

- (a) Draw a diagram of this scenario and determine what quantities are changing over time.



As the ripples growing in size, its radius (or diameter), area and circumference is increasing over time. r d A C

- (b) Assign variables to the quantities that are changing (found in part a).

- (c) Set up an equation relating area and radius of each ripple.

$$A = \pi r^2 \xrightarrow{\text{Both } A \text{ and } r \text{ are implicitly functions of time.}} A(t) = \pi(r(t))^2 = \pi r^2(t)$$

→ If the radius of a ripple is increasing at a rate of 3 inches per second. Find the rate of increase in the area of the ripple when the radius is 6 inches.

unknown: $\frac{dA}{dt}$ or $A'(t)$

change in the radius with respect to time: $\frac{dr}{dt}$ or $r'(t)$
One instant in time when $r = 6$ inch.

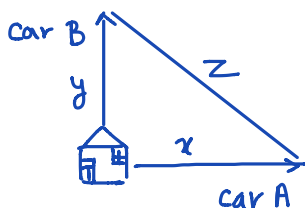
Derive both sides

$$(A(t))' = (\pi r^2(t))'$$

$$\Rightarrow A'(t) = \pi \cdot \underbrace{2r(t) \cdot r'(t)}_{\text{implicit diff}}$$

$$\Rightarrow A'(t) = \pi \cdot 2 \cdot 6 \cdot 3 = 36\pi \frac{\text{inch}^2}{\text{sec}}$$

2. Two cars start their trip from the same house. Car A is traveling east and car B is going north.



These are all increasing over time. $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x : \text{distance of car A from house} \\ y : \text{distance of car B from house} \\ z : \text{distance between two cars} \end{array} \right.$

- (b) Set up an equation relating the assigned variables.

$$x^2 + y^2 = z^2 \xrightarrow{\text{all distances are implicitly functions of time}} (x(t))^2 + (y(t))^2 = (z(t))^2$$

change in distance x : $\frac{dx}{dt}$ or $x'(t)$

$\frac{dy}{dt} = y'(t)$

→ If car A is traveling at a speed of 30 km/h and car B is traveling at a speed of 45 km/h , at what rate is the distance between the two cars increasing when car A is 6 km and car B is 8 km away from the house.

Derive both sides of above, use implicit diff

$$2x x' + 2y y' = 2z z'$$

$$2 \cdot 6 \cdot 30 + 2 \cdot 8 \cdot 45 = 2 \cdot 10 \cdot z'$$

$$360 + 720 = 20z'$$

$$\frac{1080}{20} = z'$$

$$\Rightarrow z' = 54 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{h}}$$

unknown: $\frac{dz}{dt} = z'(t)$

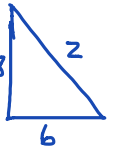
one moment in time when $x=6$ and $y=8$

(what is z ? Pythagoras

$$6^2 + 8^2 = z^2$$

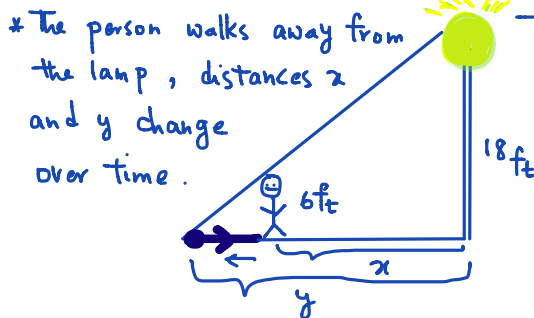
$$100 = z^2$$

$$10 = \sqrt{100} = z$$

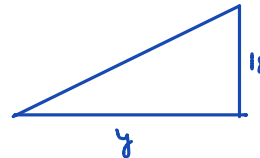


3. A person 6 feet tall walks away from a streetlamp 18 feet above ground level. The light at the top of the lamp casts a shadow in front of the person.

(a) Draw a diagram of this situation. Assign variables to the distance of the person from the lamp and distance of the "tip" of his/her shadow from the lamp.



We have two similar triangles:



(b) Set up an equation that relates the variables in part (a).

$$\frac{18}{6} = \frac{y}{y-x}$$

$$\frac{3}{1} = \frac{y}{y-x}$$

We can also write the ratios as

$$\frac{6}{18} = \frac{y-x}{y} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{6}{y-x} = \frac{18}{y}$$

change in x : $\frac{dx}{dt} = x'(t)$

→ If this person walks away from the lamp at a rate of 5 ft/s . How fast is the "tip" of the shadow moving along the ground?

unknown: $\frac{dy}{dt} = y'(t)$

$$3(y-x) = y$$

$$3y - 3x = y$$

$$3y - y = 3x$$

relation between x and $y \rightarrow 2y = 3x$

x and y are functions of time implicitly

$$2y(t) = 3x(t)$$

Derive both sides

$$2y'(t) = 3x'(t)$$

$$2y'(t) = 3 \cdot 5$$

$$y'(t) = \frac{15}{2} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{s}} = 7.5 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{s}}$$