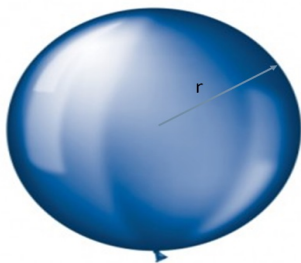


Section 4.1: Related Rates

Motivating Example: A spherical balloon is being filled with air. Suppose that we know that the radius is increasing in time at a constant rate of 2 mm/sec. Can we determine the rate at which the surface area of the balloon is increasing at the moment that the radius is 10 cm?



The $2 \frac{\text{mm}}{\text{sec}}$
is the rate
of change
of r
i.e. $\frac{dr}{dt}$

Figure: Spherical Balloon

Surface area changes as radius changes

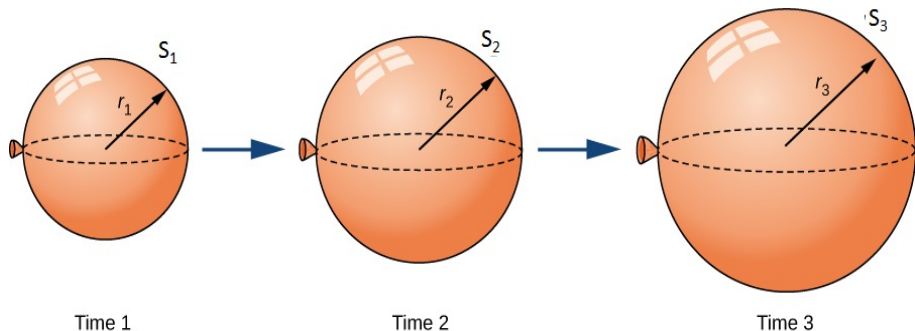


Figure: As a balloon inflates, the radius, surface area, and volume all change with time. Time is independent. Surface area depends on radius which in turn depends on time. $S = S(r) = S(r(t))$

Example Continued...

Suppose that the radius r and surface area $S = 4\pi r^2$ of a sphere are differentiable functions of time. Write an equation that relates

$$\frac{dS}{dt} \quad \text{to} \quad \frac{dr}{dt}.$$

The chain rule says $\frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{dS}{dr} \frac{dr}{dt}$

From $S = 4\pi r^2$, $\frac{dS}{dr} = 4\pi(2r) = 8\pi r$

So $\frac{dS}{dt} = 8\pi r \frac{dr}{dt}$

This is implicit differentiation, finding $\frac{d}{dt}$ of $S = 4\pi r^2$.

Given this result, find the rate at which the surface area is changing when the radius is 10 cm.

We have $\frac{dS}{dt} = 8\pi r \frac{dr}{dt}$. We were also

given $\frac{dr}{dt} = 2 \text{ mm/sec}$.

Since $r = 10 \text{ cm}$ at the moment of interest, let's convert that to $r = 100 \text{ mm}$.

When $r = 100 \text{ mm}$, $\frac{dS}{dt} = 8\pi (100 \text{ mm}) \cdot 2 \frac{\text{mm}}{\text{sec}} = 1600\pi \frac{\text{mm}^2}{\text{sec}}$.

The surface area is increasing at a rate of $1600\pi \frac{\text{mm}^2}{\text{sec}}$.

Example

A right circular cone of height h and base radius r has volume

$$V = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 h.$$

(a) Find $\frac{dV}{dt}$ in terms of $\frac{dh}{dt}$ if r is constant.

Again, the chain rule says

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dh} \cdot \frac{dh}{dt}$$

since r is assumed constant

$$\left. \frac{dV}{dh} = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 \cdot 1 = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 \frac{dh}{dt}$$

Example Continued...

$$V = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 h$$

Question (b) Find $\frac{dV}{dt}$ in terms of $\frac{dr}{dt}$ if h is constant.

(a) $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{2\pi}{3} r \frac{dr}{dt}$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dr} \frac{dr}{dt} \quad , \quad \frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{\pi}{3} h (2r)$$

(b) $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 \frac{dr}{dt}$

(c) $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 h \frac{dr}{dt}$

(d) $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{2\pi}{3} rh \frac{dr}{dt}$

And Continued Further...

$$V = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 h$$

(c) Find $\frac{dV}{dt}$ in terms of $\frac{dr}{dt}$ and $\frac{dh}{dt}$ assuming neither r nor h is constant.

$r^2 h$ is a product \Rightarrow we need the product rule

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dr} \cdot \frac{dr}{dt} + \frac{dV}{dh} \cdot \frac{dh}{dt}$$

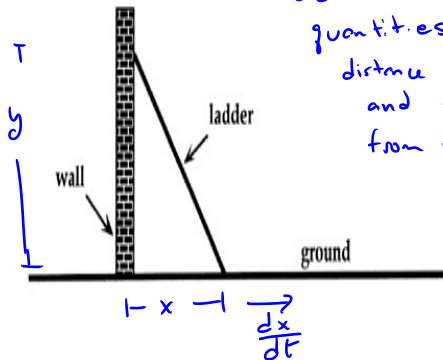
$$\frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{2\pi}{3} r h \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dh} = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 \text{ from before}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{2\pi}{3} r h \frac{dr}{dt} + \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 \frac{dh}{dt}$$

Example

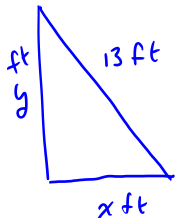
A 13 foot ladder rests against a wall. The base of the ladder begins to slide along the ground. At the moment when the base of the ladder is 5 feet from the wall, it is sliding at a rate of 1 inch per second. At what rate is the top of the ladder sliding down the wall at the moment when the base is 5 feet from the wall?



We need variables to represent changing quantities. Let's let x be the distance between the ladder base and the wall, and y be the distance from the ladder top to the ground. x and y in feet.

$$\text{given } \frac{dx}{dt} = 1 \frac{\text{in}}{\text{sec}}$$

Our question: What is $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when $x = 5$ ft?



We have a right triangle.

$$x^2 + y^2 = 13^2$$

We can "relate the rates":

$$\text{Implicit diff: } \frac{d}{dt}(x^2 + y^2) = \frac{d}{dt}(13^2)$$

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

$$\text{Let's solve for } \frac{dy}{dt}: \quad 2y \frac{dy}{dt} = -2x \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{-2x}{2y} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{-x}{y} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

We need to know y when $x = 5 \text{ ft}$.

$$x^2 + y^2 = 13^2 \Rightarrow y^2 = 13^2 - x^2$$

$$\text{when } x = 5 \text{ ft}, \quad y^2 = (13 \text{ ft})^2 - (5 \text{ ft})^2 = (169 - 25) \text{ ft}^2$$

$$y^2 = 144 \text{ ft}^2$$

$$y = 12 \text{ ft} \quad \text{when } x = 5 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{Converting } \frac{dx}{dt}, \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = 1 \frac{\text{in}}{\text{sec}} \cdot \frac{1 \text{ ft}}{12 \text{ in}} = \frac{1}{12} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{x}{y} \frac{dx}{dt}, \text{ when } x=5\text{ft}, y=12\text{ft}$$

and $\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{12} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec.}}$

So when $x=5\text{ft}$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{5\text{ft}}{12\text{ft}} \cdot \frac{1}{12} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec.}} = -\frac{5}{144} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec.}}$$

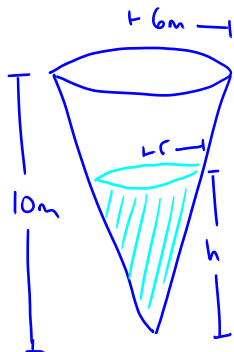
The ladder tip is falling at a rate of $\frac{5}{144} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec.}}$

General Approach to Solving Related Rates Prob.

- ▶ Identify known and unknown quantities and assign variables.
- ▶ Create a diagram if possible.
- ▶ Use the diagram, physical science, and mathematics to connect known quantities to those being sought.
- ▶ **Relate the rates** of change using implicit differentiation.
- ▶ Substitute in known quantities and solve for desired quantities.

Example

A reservoir in the shape of an inverted right circular cone has height 10m and base radius 6m. If water is flowing into the reservoir at a constant rate of $50\text{m}^3/\text{min}$. What is the rate at which the height of the water is increasing when the height is 5m?



Water in
@ $50\text{ m}^3/\text{min}$

At any given time, there is a smaller cone of water inside the reservoir.

Let r and h be the radius and height of the water in meters.

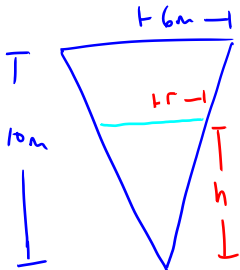
$50\frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{min}}$ is a volume rate.

From geometry, $V = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 h$. Also

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = 50 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{min}}$$

Our question is: What is $\frac{dh}{dt}$ when $h = 5\text{m}$?

We can use similar triangles to eliminate r .



$$\frac{r}{h} = \frac{6\text{m}}{10\text{m}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

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

$$S_0 \quad V = \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 h = \frac{\pi}{3} \left(\frac{3}{5} h \right)^2 h = \frac{\pi}{3} \left(\frac{9}{25} h^2 \right) h$$

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

Differentiate :

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

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

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{2S}{9\pi} \frac{1}{h^2} \frac{dV}{dt}$$

When $h = 5\text{m}$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{2S}{9\pi} \frac{1}{(5\text{m})^2} \cdot 50 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{min}}$$

$$= \frac{2S}{9\pi(25\text{m}^2)} 50 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{min}}$$

$$= \frac{50}{9\pi} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{min}}$$

The height is increasing at a rate of $\frac{50}{9\pi} \text{ m/min}$.