I.3 Related Rates

The phrase "Related Rates" refers to situations in which multiple values that are ____________ change over _____________, for example, the height and radius of the water in a right circular cone as it fills up from some known rate of volume increase.

Related Rates Strategy

- 1) Identify all ________________ and ___________ to be determined. Make a ___________ and _____________.
- 2) Write an ____________ involving the variables whose rates of change are given or are to be determined. Replace any variables you have no information about using similar triangles, trig ratios, other "helper equations".
- 3) Using the Chain Rule, ________________ all (**non-constant**) __________ on both sides of the equation with respect to t.
- 4) *After* completing Step 3, ______________________ all known values for the variables and their rates of change.
- 5) Solve for the required rate of change.

Example

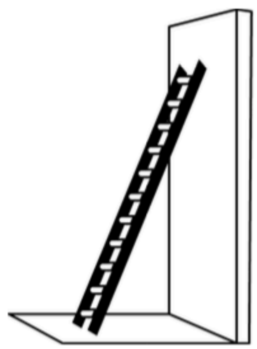
The volume of a cone of radius r and height h is given by $V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$. If the radius and the height both increase at a constant rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ centimeter per second, at what rate, in cubic centimeters per second, is the volume increasing when the height is 9 centimeters and the radius is 6 centimeters?

(A) $\frac{1}{2}\pi$
(B) 10π
(C) 24π
(D) 54π
(E) 108π

Practice

88. The radius of a sphere is decreasing at a rate of 2 centimeters per second. At the instant when the radius of the sphere is 3 centimeters, what is the rate of change, in square centimeters per second, of the surface area of the sphere? (The surface area S of a sphere with radius r is $S = 4\pi r^2$)

(A) -108π (B) -72π (C) -48π (D) -24π (E) -16π



28. The top of a 15-foot-long ladder rests against a vertical wall with the bottom of the ladder on level ground, as shown above. The ladder is sliding down the wall at a constant rate of 2 feet per second. At what rate, in radians per second, is the acute angle between the bottom of the ladder and the ground changing at the instant the bottom of the ladder is 9 feet from the base of the wall?

(A) $-\frac{2}{9}$ (B) $-\frac{1}{6}$ (C) $-\frac{2}{25}$ (D) $\frac{2}{25}$ (E) $\frac{1}{9}$

Example

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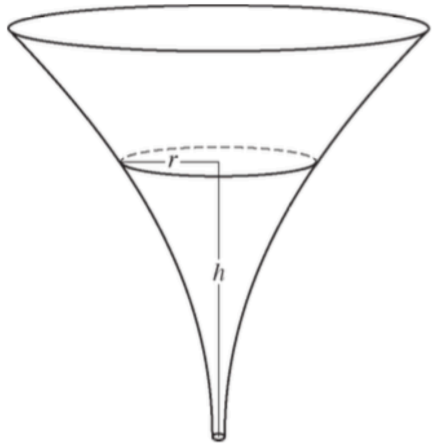
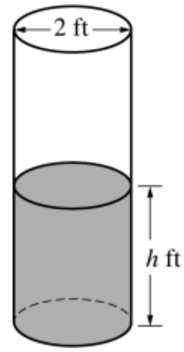


5. The inside of a funnel of height 10 inches has circular cross sections, as shown in the figure above. At height h, the radius of the funnel is given by $r = \frac{1}{20}\left(3 + h^2\right)$, where $0 \le h \le 10$. The units of r and h are inches.

(c) The funnel contains liquid that is draining from the bottom. At the instant when the height of the liquid is $h = 3$ inches, the radius of the surface of the liquid is decreasing at a rate of $\frac{1}{5}$ inch per second. At this instant, what is the rate of change of the height of the liquid with respect to time?

Practice



4. A cylindrical barrel with a diameter of 2 feet contains collected rainwater, as shown in the figure above. The water drains out through a valve (not shown) at the bottom of the barrel. The rate of change of the height h of the water in the barrel with respect to time t is modeled by $\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{1}{10}\sqrt{h}$, where h is measured in feet and t is measured in seconds. (The volume V of a cylinder with radius r and height h is $V = \pi r^2 h$.)

(a) Find the rate of change of the volume of water in the barrel with respect to time when the height of the water is 4 feet. Indicate units of measure.

(b) When the height of the water is 3 feet, is the rate of change of the height of the water with respect to time increasing or decreasing? Explain your reasoning.

Challenge

BC 2018 #4

The height of the tree, in meters, can also be modeled by the function G, given by $G(x) = \dfrac{100x}{1+x}$, where x is the diameter of the base of the tree, in meters. When the tree is 50 meters tall, the diameter of the base of the tree is increasing at a rate of 0.03 meter per year. According to this model, what is the rate of change of the height of the tree with respect to time, in meters per year, at the time when the tree is 50 meters tall?