

Related Rates

10/27

ES: What is a related rate?
How do we find related rates?

The chain rule can find the rates of change of two or more related variables that are changing with respect to time. A lot of real life problems are all functions of time.

(ex)

The variable x and y are functions of t and are related by the equation

$$y = x^2 + 3$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(y) = \frac{d}{dt}(x^2 + 3)$$

$$1 \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(x^2) + \frac{d}{dt}(3)$$

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

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

$$= 2(1)(2)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 4$$

Find $\frac{dy}{dt}$
when $x=1$
and $\frac{dx}{dt}=2$

Summary

Problem Solving with Related Rates

10/28

ES: How do I solve a word problem involving related rates?

A pebble is dropped into a calm pond causing ripples in the form of concentric ~~ripples~~ circles. The radius r of the outer ripple is increasing at a constant rate of 1 foot per second. When the radius is 4 feet, at what rate is the total Area, A of the disturbed water changing?

Equation: $A = \pi r^2$

Rate: $\frac{dr}{dt} = 1 \text{ ft/s}$

~~Find:~~ Find: $\frac{dA}{dt}$ when $r = 4$ feet

$$\frac{d}{dt}[A] = \frac{d}{dt}[\pi r^2]$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 2\pi r \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$= 2\pi (4 \text{ feet}) (1 \text{ ft/s})$$

$$= \underline{8\pi \text{ ft}^2/\text{s}}$$

When the radius is 4ft the area is changing at a rate of $8\pi \text{ ft}^2/\text{s}$.

Summary