8 (b) - Related Rates

Remark 8.1 (General Technique for solving Related Rate Problems).

- (i) Relating given quantities with an equation.
- (ii) Differentiating the equation (using implicit differentiation and the chain rule).
- (iii) Solving for some rate of change (derivative).

Remark 8.2.

Geometric/Trig formulas you are expected to know

 $\bullet~{\rm Circles}$

$$C = \pi d \qquad \qquad d = 2r \qquad \qquad A = \pi r^2$$

• Triangles

$$A = \frac{1}{2}bh \qquad c^2 = a^2 + b^2 \text{ (for right } \Delta s)$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{O}{H} \text{ (for right } \Delta s) \qquad \cos \theta = \frac{A}{H} \text{ (for right } \Delta s) \qquad \tan \theta = \frac{O}{A} = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} \text{ (for right } \Delta s)$$

• Rectangles (Squares)

$$P = 2l + 2w \qquad \qquad A = lw$$

 $\bullet~{\rm Spheres}$

 $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \qquad \qquad SA = 4\pi r^2$

 $\bullet~{\rm Cones}$

$$V = \frac{h}{3} (\text{area of base})$$

• Cylinders

V = h(area of base)

balloon

Example 8.10 (Instructor).

A balloon is rising vertically above a field, and a person 500 feet away from the spot on the ground underneath the balloon is watching it, measuring the angle of inclination, θ . When the angle is $\pi/4$ radians, the angle is increasing at $\frac{1}{10}$ radians per minute. At that moment, how fast is the balloon rising?

Example 8.11 (Student).

Let $f(x) = x - x^2 = x(1 - x)$, and let θ be the angle between the positive x-axis and the line joining the point (x, f(x)) with the origin. At what rate is θ changing, with respect to x, when $x = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$?

Example 8.12 (Student).

A person is lifting a weight with a pulley. The pulley is 25 feet off the ground, the rope is 100 feet long, and the person is holding the end of the rope 5 feet off the ground. If the person is walking backwards (away from the pulley) at a constant rate of 5 ft/sec, how fast is the weight rising when the person is 10 feet from the spot on the ground directly under the pulley?

person θ 500 ft





Example 8.13 (Student).

A spotlight on the ground shines on a wall 12 meters away. If a man 2 meters tall walks from the spotlight toward the building at a speed of 1.6 m/s, how fast is the length of his shadow on the building decreasing when he is 4 m from the building?