Rates of Change

In some cases two, or more, rates must be found to get the equation in terms of the given variable.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

e.g. (i) A block of ice in the form of a cube has one edge 10 cm long. It is melting so that its dimensions decrease at the rate of 1 mm/s.

At what rate is the volume decreasing when the edge is 5cm long?

$$V = x^{3}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dV} = 3x^{2}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = ? \quad \frac{dV}{dt} = -\frac{1}{10}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dt} \times \frac{dV}{dx}$$

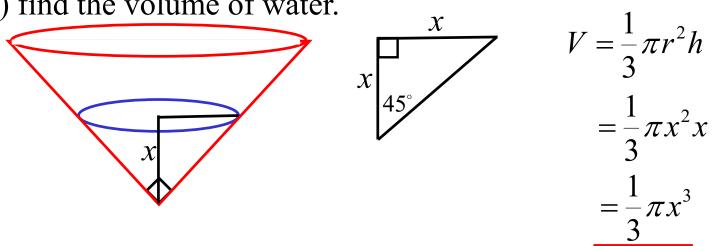
$$= 3x^{2} \times -\frac{1}{10}$$

when
$$x = 5$$
, $\frac{dV}{dt} = -\frac{3(5)^2}{10}$
= -7.5

∴ volume is decreasing at 7.5 cm³/s

(ii) A vessel is in the form of an inverted cone with a vertical angle of 90° If the depth of the water in the vessel is x cm;

a) find the volume of water.



b) If water is poured in at a rate of 0.2 cm³/min, find the rate the depth is increasing when the water depth is 4 cm.

is increasing when the water depth is 4 cm.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ? \qquad \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt} \times \frac{dx}{dV} \qquad \text{when } x = 4, \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{5\pi(4)^2}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{1}{5} \qquad = \frac{1}{5} \times \frac{1}{\pi x^2}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi x^3$$

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = \pi x^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{5\pi x^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{5\pi x^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{80\pi}$$

$$\frac{1}{80\pi}$$
at $\frac{1}{80\pi}$ cm/min

(iii) A spherical bubble is expanding so that its volume increases at a constant rate of 70mm³/s

What is the rate of increase of its surface area when the radius is 10 mm?

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = ? \qquad \frac{dV}{dt} = 70 \qquad V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \qquad S = 4\pi r^2$$
$$\frac{dV}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \qquad \frac{dS}{dr} = 8\pi r$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt} \cdot \frac{dS}{dr} \cdot \frac{dr}{dV}$$
when $r = 10, \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{140}{10}$

$$= 14$$

 $= (70)(8\pi r) \left(\frac{1}{4\pi r^2}\right) \quad \therefore \text{ when radius is 10mm the surface area is increasing at a rate of 14mm²/s}$

$$=\frac{140}{r}$$

 $= \frac{140}{r}$ Exercise 16A; 1a, 2a, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18