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**Instructor:** UVIC Math  
**Course:** MATH 100 (A01, A02, A03) Fall 2021  
**Assignment:** Assignment 4

It takes 24 hours to drain a storage tank by opening the valve at the bottom. The depth  $y$  of fluid in the tank  $t$  hours after the valve is opened is given by the formula  $y = 12 \left( 1 - \frac{t}{24} \right)^2$  m. Complete parts (a) through (c) below.

a. Find the rate  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  (in meters per hour) at which the tank is draining at time  $t$ .

The rate of change of depth is the derivative of the depth with respect to time.

Determine  $\frac{dy}{dt}$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{t}{24} - 1$$

b. When is the fluid level in the tank falling fastest? Slowest? What are the values of  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  at these times?

Since the rate of change of depth is the derivative of the depth with respect to time, the fluid level in the tank is falling fastest when  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  is at a minimum, and it is falling slowest when  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  is at a maximum.

The draining process begins at  $t = 0$ .

The draining process ends at  $t = 24$ .

Consider the velocity function,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{t}{24} - 1$ . Notice that it is a linear function.

The maximum and minimum of a linear function on a given interval are at the endpoints of that interval.

So the maximum and minimum points of  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  occur, in some order, when  $t = 0$  and  $t = 24$ . Evaluate the function at  $t = 0$ .

$$\frac{0}{24} - 1 = -1$$

Evaluate the function at  $t = 24$ .

$$\frac{24}{24} - 1 = 0$$

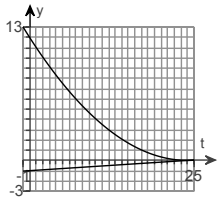
Thus, the fluid level is falling slowest at  $t = 24$  h. The value of  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  at this time is 0 m / h. The fluid level is falling fastest at

$t = 0$  h. The value of  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  at this time is  $-1$  m / h.

c. Graph  $y$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  together and discuss the behavior of  $y$  in relation to the signs and values of  $\frac{dy}{dt}$ .

Use technology to graph the two functions.

Recall that  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{t}{24} - 1$ . The functions are graphed to the right.



The graph of  $y$  goes down when traced from left to right, so the values of  $y$  decrease from left to right.

Notice that  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  increases toward 0 from left to right. Therefore,  $y$  decreases at a decreasing rate from left to right.