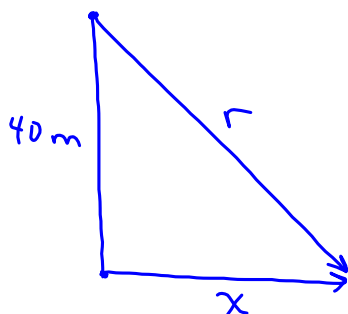


SOLVING RELATED RATES WITH TRIANGLE RELATIONSHIPS

Ex6. A bird of prey is perched at the top of a tree that is 40 m high. A squirrel runs away from the base of the tree at a rate of 2 m/s. What is the rate of change of the distance between the bird and the squirrel when the squirrel is 30 m from the tree?



$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2 \text{ m/s}$$

Find $\frac{dr}{dt}$ when $x=30 \text{ m}$

$$\textcircled{M1} \quad \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$r^2 = x^2 + 40^2$$

$$r^2 = x^2 + 1600$$

$$r = (x^2 + 1600)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1600}} \cdot 2$$

$$= \frac{2x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1600}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dr}{dx} &= \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + 1600)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot (2x) \\ &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1600}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So when } x=30, \quad \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{60}{50} = \frac{6}{5} \text{ m/s}$$

$$\textcircled{M2} \quad \frac{d}{dt} (x^2 + 1600 = r^2)$$

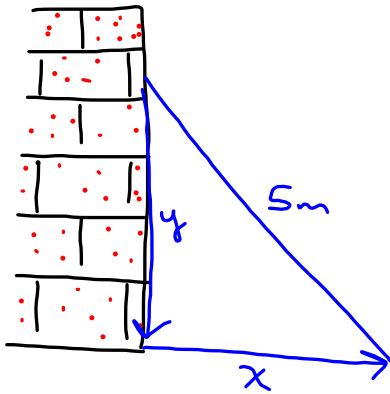
$$2x \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + 0 = 2r \cdot \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } \frac{dr}{dt} &= \frac{x}{r} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} \\ &= \frac{2x}{r} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So when } x=30 \text{ m, } r=50 \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{2(30)}{50} = \frac{6}{5} \text{ m/s.}$$

Ex7. A 5-m ladder rests in a vertical position against the side of a building. The base of the ladder begins to slip at a constant rate of 0.5m/min. How fast is the top of the ladder sliding down the building at 240 s?



Given: $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0.5 \text{ m/min}$

Find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when $t = 240 \text{ s}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} (x^2 + y^2 = 25)$$

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

$$2y \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} = -2x \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{-x}{y} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-x}{2y}$$

When $t = 240 \text{ s}$
 $= 4 \text{ min.}$

$$\therefore x = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(4)$$

$$= 2 \text{ m}$$

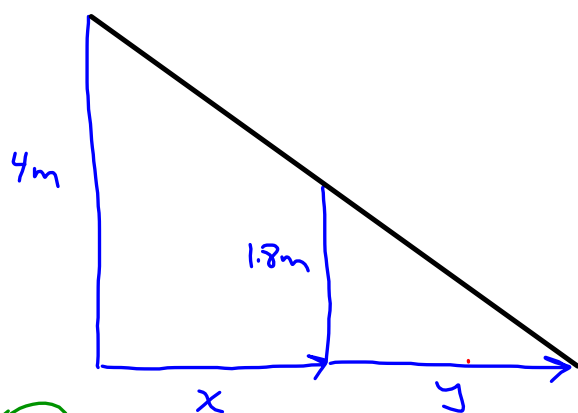
$$y^2 = 21 \quad y = \sqrt{21}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{-2}{2\sqrt{21}}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{\sqrt{21}} \text{ m/min.}$$

Ex8. A person is walking away from a streetlight at a rate of 2 m/s. The person is 1.8 m tall and the light is 4 m high. How fast is the length of the person's shadow increasing when she is 3 m from the base of the streetlight?



Given: $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2 \text{ m/s}$

Find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when $x = 3 \text{ m}$

(M2)

$$\frac{4}{x+y} = \frac{1.8}{y}$$

$$4y = 1.8x + 1.8y$$

$$2.2y = 1.8x$$

$$22y = 18x$$

$$y = \frac{9}{11}x$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(y = \frac{9}{11}x \right)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{9}{11} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$= \frac{9}{11} (2)$$

$$= \frac{18}{11} \text{ m/s}$$

(M1)

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

$$= \frac{9}{11} \cdot 2$$

Homework: Page 569 #8, 9 [Hint: Height remains constant at 30 m], 10, 11, 17, 18, 19 [Hint: Picture the actions occurring on the edge of a box], 2a

[WARNING: watch units for 17, 18, 19]; Answers: [8a. $\frac{4}{9}$ not 4]