

3.10.13

For a cylinder of radius r and height h , the volume is $V = \pi r^2 h$.

(a) How is dV/dt related to dh/dt if r is constant?

Solution

With r constant, $V = \pi r^2 h$ is a function of variable h and

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

$$= \boxed{\pi r^2 \frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt}}$$

(b) How is dV/dt related to dr/dt if h is constant?

Solution

With h constant, we have

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

$$= \pi h \left[2r \frac{dr}{dt} \right] = \boxed{2\pi h r \frac{dr}{dt}}$$

(c) How is dV/dt related to dr/dt and dh/dt where neither r nor h is constant?

Solution

We need the Product Rule:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [V] = \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} [\pi r^2 h]$$

$$= \pi \left(\left[2r \frac{dr}{dt} \right] (h) + (r^2) \left[\frac{dh}{dt} \right] \right)$$

$$= \left[2\pi r h \frac{dr}{dt} + \pi r^2 \frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt} \right] \quad \square$$