

# 1 3.3: Rates of Change

**Recall:** The derivative of a function can measure:

- 1) slope of tangent line
- 2) velocity if  $f = \text{position}$
- 3) rate of change

**Examples:**

$$64 - 96 + 36$$

A particle moves in a line according to the function  $s = f(t) = t^3 - 6t^2 + 9t$ , where  $t$  is in seconds and  $s$  is in feet.

- Find the velocity at time  $t$
- What is the velocity after 2 seconds?
- When is the particle at rest?  $v = 0$
- Find the total distance traveled in the first 4 seconds.

$$a) f'(t) = 3t^2 - 12t + 9$$

$$b) f'(2) = 3(2)^2 - 12(2) + 9 = 12 - 24 + 9 = -3 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{s}}$$

$$c) f'(t) = 3t^2 - 12t + 9 = 0$$

$$3(t^2 - 4t + 3) = 0$$

$$3(t-3)(t-1) = 0$$

$$t = 3 \quad t = 1 \text{ seconds}$$

$$d) \text{dist} \neq f(4) - f(0) \text{ (displacement)}$$

$$f(1) - f(0) = 4 - 0 = 4 \text{ ft}$$

$$d = |f(3) - f(1)| = |0 - 4| = 4 \text{ ft}$$

$$d = f(4) - f(3) = 4 - 0 = 4 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{Total} = 12 \text{ ft}$$

Sand is dumped into a cylindrical can with a 3 foot diameter.

a) Find the average rate of change in the volume of the sand from a height of 1 foot to a height of 2 feet.

b) Find the instantaneous rate of change in the volume of sand when the height is 2 feet.

a)  $V = \pi r^2 h$        $r = \frac{3}{2}$

$V = \pi \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 h = \frac{9\pi}{4} h$        $\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta h} = \frac{V(2) - V(1)}{2 - 1} = \frac{2 \cdot \frac{9\pi}{4} - \frac{9\pi}{4}}{2 - 1} = \frac{9\pi}{4} \frac{\text{ft}^3}{\text{ft}}$

b)  $\frac{dV}{dh} = \frac{9\pi}{4} \frac{\text{ft}^3}{\text{ft}}$

Linear = Const ROC