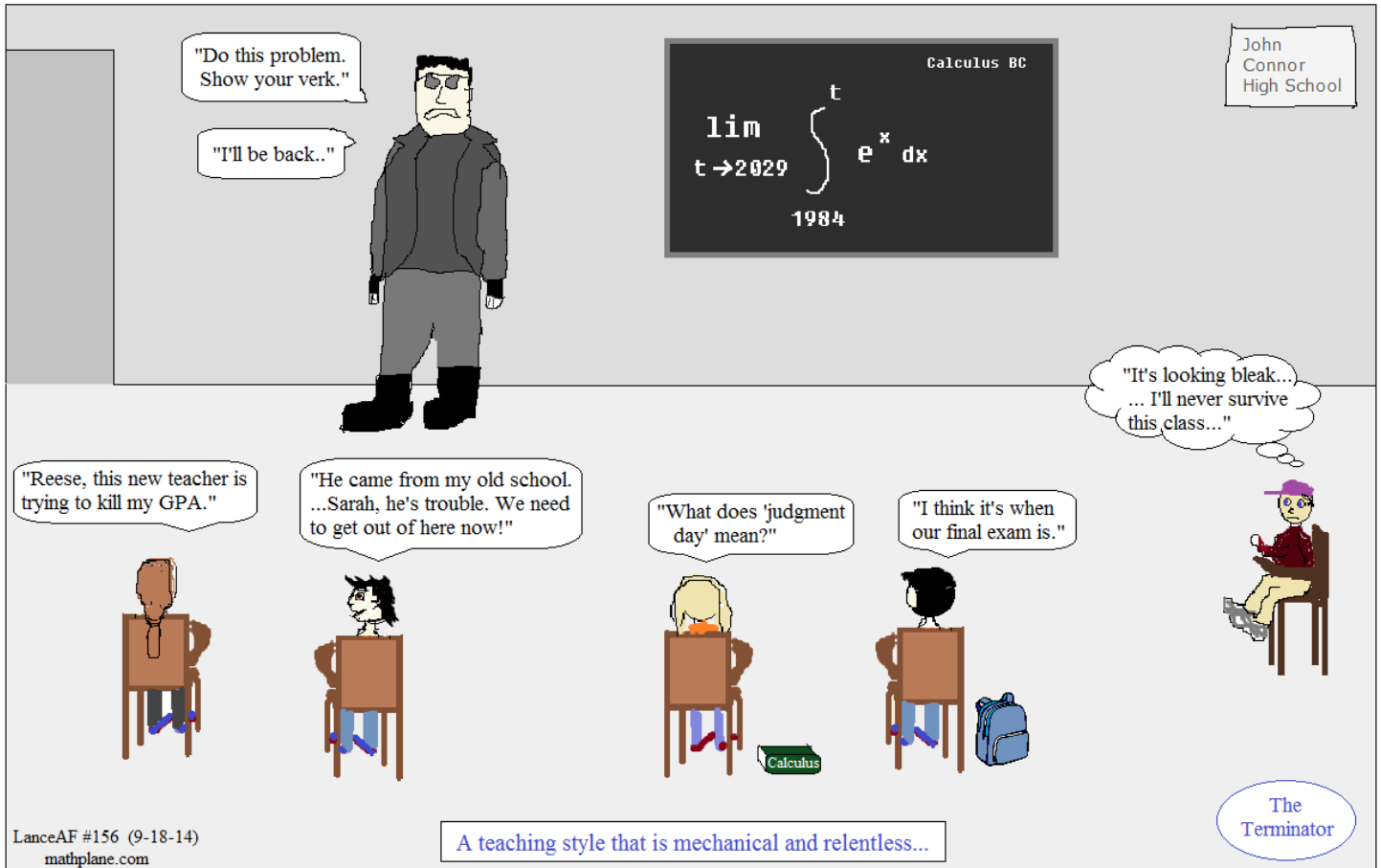


# Calculus: AP Free Response-Type AB Questions

Multi-part questions that help prepare for AP Test or a Calculus final.

Topics include volume of solids, related rates, particle movement, volume of solids, anti-derivatives, LRAM, and more.

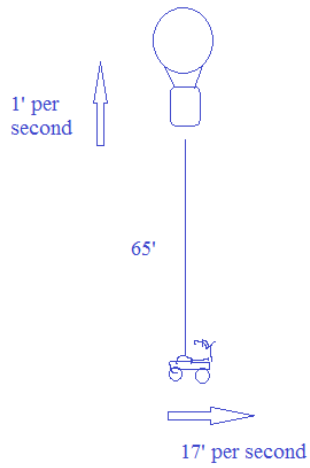


QUESTIONS-→

AP Calculus Free Response Example: Related Rates of Change

A balloon is 65 feet above the ground and rising at a rate of 1 foot per second. Meanwhile, a bicycle rider is directly under the balloon, traveling on a flat road at a rate of 17 feet per second.

- a) What is the distance between the balloon and the bicycle rider 3 seconds later?
- b) How fast is the distance between the balloon and the bicycle rider increasing 3 seconds later?
- c) How fast is the angle between the ground and the line connecting the balloon and bicycle changing 3 seconds later?

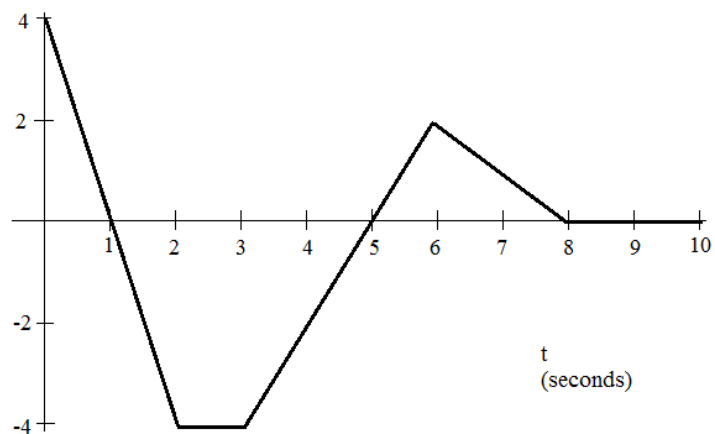


AP Calculus AB Free Response example: position, velocity, speed, acceleration, graphs

The figure shows the velocity of a particle.

$$V = f(t)$$

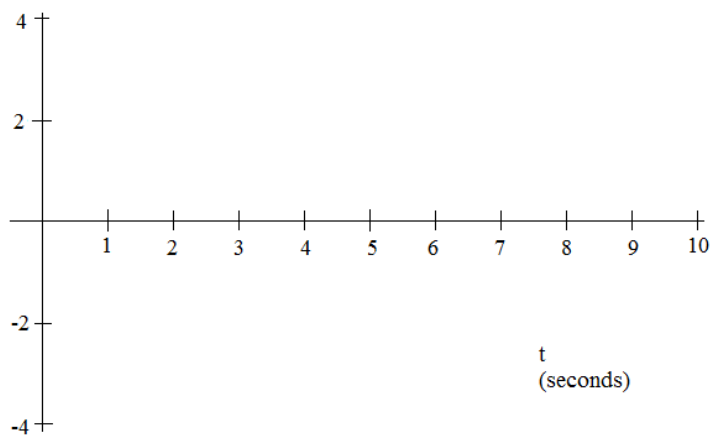
- a) When does the particle  
move forward?  
backward?  
change direction?



- b) When is the particle at rest?

- c) When does the particle speed up? slow down?

- d) Graph the particle's acceleration. Identify the intervals when its acceleration is positive, negative, or zero.



- e) What is the particle's fastest speed?

AP Calculus Questions: Volume of Solids with various cross sections

The area of a region is bounded by  $y = e^x$ , x-axis, y-axis, and  $x = 1$

- a) Find the area of the region
  - b) Find the volume of the solid when the region is rotated around the x-axis
  - c) Find the volume of the solid where the cross sections perpendicular to the x-axis are squares
  - d) Find the volume of the solid where the cross sections perpendicular to the x-axis are semicircles
- 

a) Area of region

b) Rotated around x-axis

c) Square cross sections

d) Semicircle cross sections

Water flows into a tank at varying rates.

The amount is measured in the time interval  $0 < t < 6$ ,

given by the differentiable function  $A(t)$

where  $t$  = time in minutes

$A(t)$  = gallons per minute at given time

$t$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$A(t)$	12	10	6	5	8	10	17

Selected values are in the table..

a) Use the table to approximate  $A'(4)$

b) Is there a time  $c$ ,  $2 < c < 4$ , where  $A'(c) = 2$ ? Explain.

c) Use MRAM to estimate  $\int_0^6 A(t) dt$

d) Is LRAM  $<$  or  $>$  the actual value of  $\int_0^6 A(t) dt$  Justify.

Find the solutions:

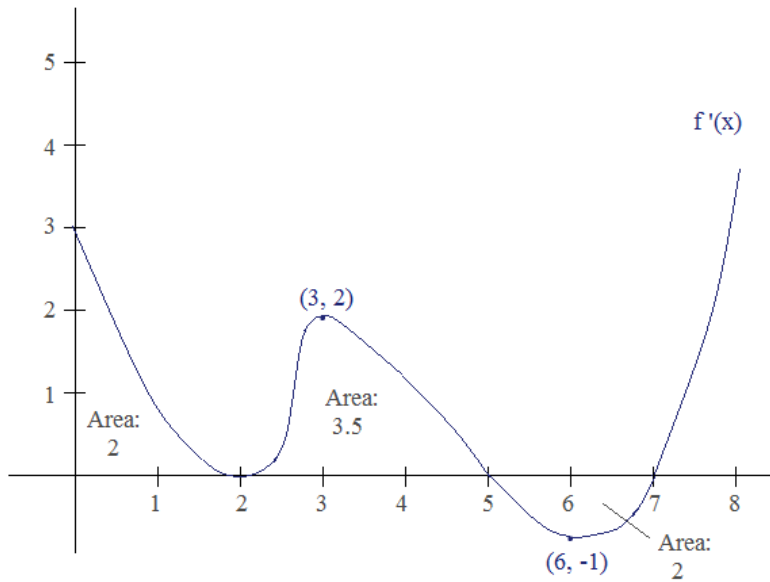
a)  $\frac{ds}{dt} = -32t + 100$        $s = 50$  when  $t = 0$

b)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin x + 2$        $y(2) = 5$       (answer to 3 decimal places)

c) Find the general solution:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2xy$

AP Calculus Free Response example: interpreting a derivative graph

The following is a graph of the *derivative of f(x)*:



- a) Where is the local minimum(s)?
- b) Where is the absolute (global) minimum? Justify your answer.
- c) Where is the function concave up AND increasing on the interval  $[0, 8]$ ?
- d)  $g(x) = (f(x))^2$  If  $f(3) = 8$ , find the slope of the line tangent to the graph  $g(x)$  at  $x = 3$

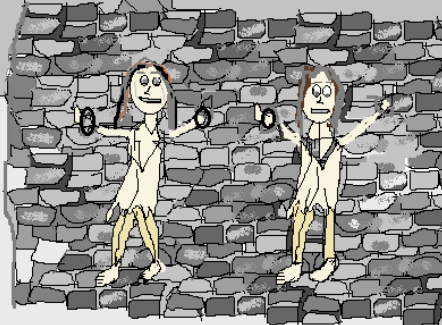


"Last week, I taught you about limits...  
Today, I'm going to introduce you  
to the *chain rule*."

Let  $P = \text{pain}$   
 $t = \text{time}$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{dP}{dU} \cdot \frac{dU}{dt}$$

calculus  
✓1. limits  
✓2. chain  
3. power



"Uh, oh...  
What does he  
mean by 'U'?"

"I don't know.  
But, I think 'P'  
is continuous."

Calculus can be torture for math students...

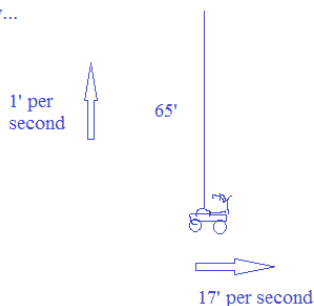
# SOLUTIONS-→

A balloon is 65' above the ground and rising at a rate of 1' per second. Meanwhile, a bicycle rider is directly under the balloon, traveling on a flat road at a rate of 17' per second.

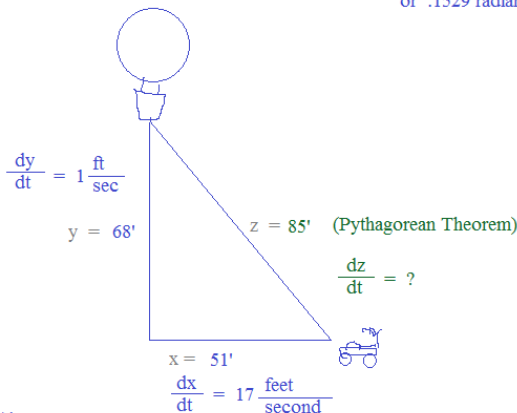
- a) What is the distance between the balloon and the bicycle rider 3 seconds later? 85 feet
- b) How fast is the distance between the balloon and the bicycle rider increasing 3 seconds later? 11 feet per second
- c) How fast is the angle between the ground and the line connecting the balloon and bicycle changing 3 seconds later? decreasing 8.76 degrees per second or .1529 radians per second

Step 1: Draw diagram and establish variables

Now...



3 seconds later..



Step 2: Write the basic equation (showing the relationship between variables)

$x^2 + y^2 = z^2$  Since we know x, y, z, and we know the dx/dt and dy/dt, we can find the related rates.. (i.e. the change in distance related to time)

Step 3: Find related rate (e.g. implicit differentiation)

The rates of change with respect to time (t)  $2x \frac{dx}{dt} + 2y \frac{dy}{dt} = 2z \frac{dz}{dt}$

Then, substitute... (after the units cancel,)  $2(51)(17) + 2(68)(1) = 2(85)(\frac{dz}{dt})$

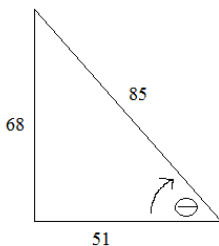
$1734 + 136 = 170 (\frac{dz}{dt})$

$11 = \frac{dz}{dt}$

After 3 seconds, the distance between the bicycle and the balloon is increasing at a rate of 11 feet/second

Step 4: Check for reasonableness...

Snapshots:	now distance apart: 65'	1 second later distance apart: 68.15	2 seconds later distance apart: 75.13	3 seconds later distance apart: 85	4 seconds later distance apart: 96.88
	65' high 0' along	66' high 17' along	67' high 34' along	68' high 51' along	69' high 68' along
	average rate between 0 and 1 3.15	average rate between 1 and 2 6.98	average rate between 2 and 3 9.87	IROC at 3 seconds 11	average rate between 3 and 4 11.88



One equation that relates the angle to the sides:  $\tan \Theta = \frac{y}{x}$  (opposite/adjacent)

Then, the derivative that relates the rates to time: (using implicit diff. and the quotient rule)

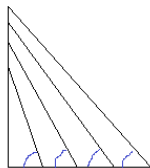
$\sec^2 \Theta \frac{d\Theta}{dt} = \frac{x \frac{dy}{dt} - y \frac{dx}{dt}}{x^2}$

$(\frac{85}{51})^2 \frac{d\Theta}{dt} = \frac{51(1) - 68(17)}{51^2}$

$\frac{d\Theta}{dt} = -.1529 \text{ radians or } -8.76 \text{ degrees/second}$

quick check:

- Now: angle is undefined
- 1 second later: 75.5 degrees AROC (1 - 2) -12.4
- 2 seconds later: 63.1 degrees AROC (2 - 3) -10
- 3 seconds later: 53.1 degrees IROC -8.76 degrees
- 4 seconds later: 45.4 degrees AROC (3 - 4) -7.7



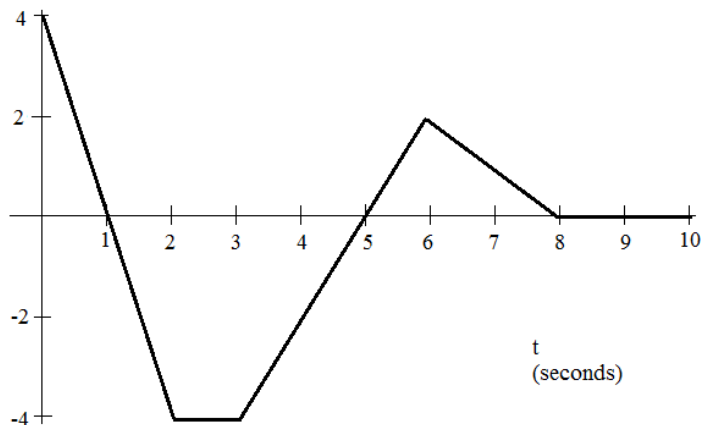
Note: You may use another trig function such as  $\sin \Theta = \frac{y}{z}$

$\cos \Theta \frac{d\Theta}{dt} = \frac{z \frac{dy}{dt} - y \frac{dz}{dt}}{z^2} \quad \frac{51}{85} \frac{d\Theta}{dt} = \frac{85(1) - 68(11)}{85^2}$

$\frac{d\Theta}{dt} = -.1529 \text{ radians or } -8.76 \text{ degrees/second}$  ✓

The figure shows the velocity of a particle.

$$V = f(t)$$



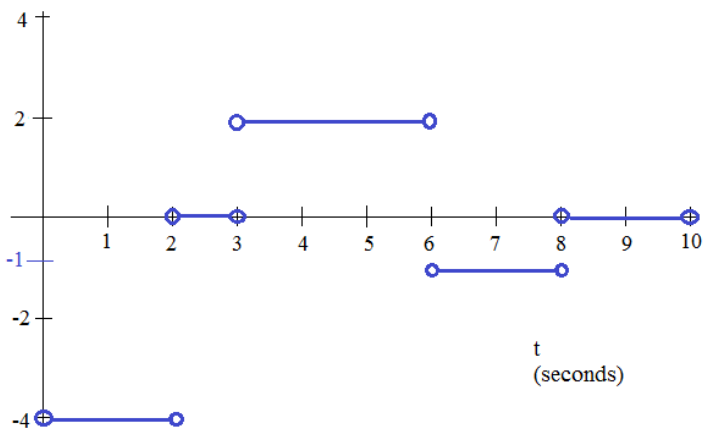
- a) When does the particle  
 move forward? when derivative is positive (above x-axis)  
 $(0, 1) \cup (5, 8)$   
 backward? when derivative is negative (below x-axis)  
 interval  $(1, 5)$   
 change direction?  
 at  $t = 1$  and  $t = 5$

- b) When is the particle at rest?  
 when velocity = 0 at  $t = 1$   $t = 5$  and interval  $[8, 10]$

- c) When does the particle speed up? slow down?  
 Particle is speeding up when velocity is positive AND increasing  
 OR velocity is negative AND decreasing...  $(1, 2)$  and  $(5, 6)$   
 Particle is slowing down when velocity is positive AND decreasing  
 OR velocity is negative AND increasing  
 (velocity and acceleration in opposite directions)  $(0, 1)$  and  $(3, 5)$  and  $(6, 8)$

- d) Graph the particle's acceleration. Identify the intervals when its acceleration is positive, negative, or zero.

- $a(t) > 0$  in the interval  $(3, 6)$   
 $a(t) < 0$  in the intervals  $(0, 2)$  and  $(6, 8)$   
 $a(t) = 0$  in the intervals  $(2, 3)$  and  $(8, 10)$



- e) What is the particle's fastest speed?  
 Speed is the absolute value of velocity...  
 So, the fastest speed occurs at  $t = 0$   
 and between 2 and 3 seconds  
 The fastest speed is 4..

The area of a region is bounded by  $y = e^x$ , x-axis, y-axis, and  $x = 1$

- Find the area of the region
- Find the volume of the solid when the region is rotated around the x-axis
- Find the volume of the solid where the cross sections perpendicular to the x-axis are squares
- Find the volume of the solid where the cross sections perpendicular to the x-axis are semicircles

a) Find the area of the region

Step 1: Determine the span of the integral.  
The boundaries go from  $x = 0$  to  $x = 1$

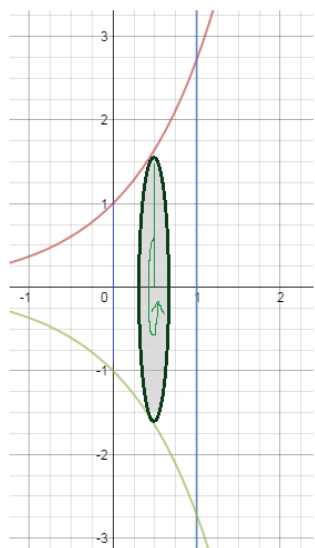
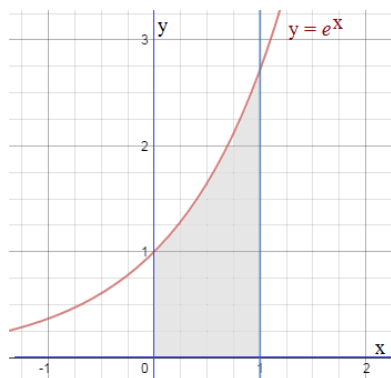
$$\int_0^1$$

Step 2: Determine the function to evaluate  
The upper boundary is  $y = e^x$  and the lower boundary is  $y = 0$

$$\int_0^1 e^x - 0 \, dx$$

Step 3: Evaluate

$$e^x \Big|_0^1 = e^1 - e^0 = e - 1 \text{ or } 1.72$$



b) Find the volume of the solid when the region is rotated around the x-axis

area of a circle:  $\pi (\text{radius})^2$   
(the radius is the length of the function)

$$\int_0^1 \pi (e^x)^2 \, dx$$

radius  
of each partition

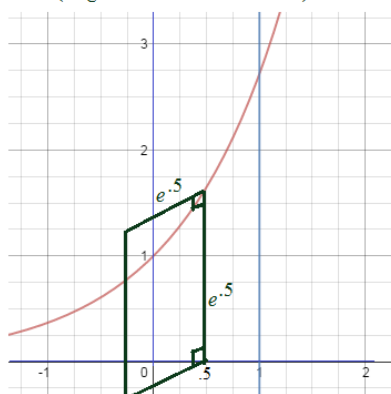
$$\int_0^1 \pi e^{2x} \, dx = \pi \int_0^1 e^{2x} \, dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pi \int_0^1 2 e^{2x} \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \pi \cdot e^{2x} \Big|_0^1$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \pi (e^2 - e^0) = \frac{1}{2} \pi (e^2 - 1)$$

approx. 10.03

c) cross sections perpendicular to the x-axis are squares  
(diagram of one cross section)



$$\int_0^1 (e^x)^2 \, dx$$

side of  
each partition

$$\int_0^1 e^{2x} \, dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 2 e^{2x} \, dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot e^{2x} \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{2} (e^2 - 1)$$

approx. 3.19

area of a square:  $(\text{side})^2$   
(the side is the length of the function)

d) cross sections perpendicular to the x-axis are semicircles

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} \pi \left( \frac{1}{2} e^x \right)^2 \, dx$$

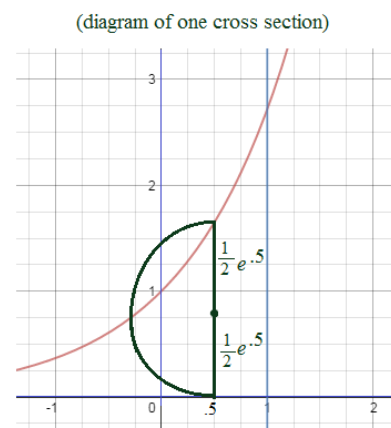
radius of  
each partition

$$\frac{1}{2} \pi \int_0^1 \frac{1}{4} e^{2x} \, dx$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \pi \int_0^1 2 e^{2x} \, dx$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \pi \cdot e^{2x} \Big|_0^1$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \pi (e^2 - e^0) = \text{approx. } 1.25$$



area of a semicircle:  $\frac{1}{2} \pi (\text{radius})^2$   
(the radius is 1/2 the length of the function)

SOLUTIONS

Water flows into a tank at varying rates.  
The amount is measured in the time interval  $0 < t < 6$ ,

given by the differentiable function  $A(t)$   
where  $t$  = time in minutes  
 $A(t)$  = gallons per minute at given time

t	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
A(t)	12	10	6	5	8	10	17

Selected values are in the table..

a) Use the table to approximate  $A'(4)$

Since we don't know the function, we'll use estimates of rates of change from the left of 4 and right of 4...

Rate of change from 3 to 4:  $\frac{8-5}{4-3} = 3$

Rate of change from 4 to 5:  $\frac{10-8}{5-4} = 2$

The average of the two values is 2.5

$A'(4)$  is approximately 2.5

(The gallons per minute water flow is increasing by 2.5)

b) Is there a time  $c$ ,  $2 < c < 4$ , where  $A'(c) = 2$ ? Explain.

The Average Rate of Change (AROC) from 2 to 3

is  $\frac{5-6}{3-2} = -1$

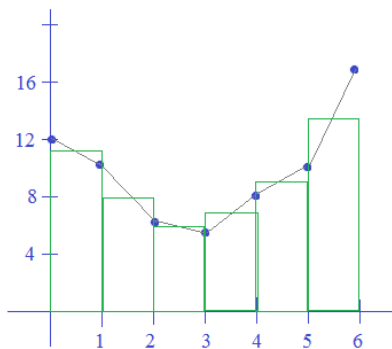
and, the AROC from 3 to 4 is  $\frac{8-5}{4-3} = 3$

And, we know the function is differentiable (and continuous).. Therefore, at some point, the Instantaneous Rate of Change (IROC) must be between -1 and 3.. (Mean Value Theorem)

c) Use MRAM to estimate  $\int_0^6 A(t) dt$

	midpoint	$\Delta t$
0 to 1	$11 \times 1 = 11$	
1 to 2	$8 \times 1 = 8$	
2 to 3	$5.5 \times 1 = 5.5$	
3 to 4	$6.5 \times 1 = 6.5$	
4 to 5	$9 \times 1 = 9$	
5 to 6	$13.5 \times 1 = 13.5$	

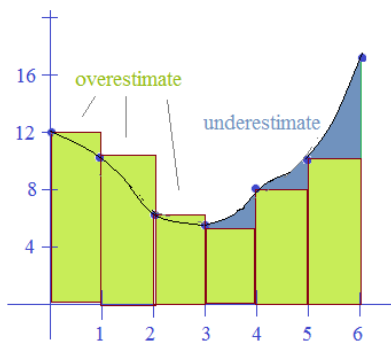
total estimate:  
53.5 gallons  
(amount of water that flowed into the tank)



d) Is LRAM < or > the actual value of  $\int_0^6 A(t) dt$  Justify.

While the rate is declining from 0 to 3, LRAM is overestimating the value.. then, when the rate is increasing from 3 to 6, LRAM is underestimating the value...

Since the increase from 3 to 6 appears larger than 0 to 3, it's more likely LRAM underestimates the actual value.



Find the solutions:

$$\text{a) } \frac{ds}{dt} = -32t + 100 \quad s = 50 \text{ when } t = 0$$

$$\text{Find the antiderivate using integration: } s = -\frac{32t^2}{2} + 100t + C$$

$$s = -16t^2 + 100t + C$$

Then, find constant C by substitution:

$$(50) = -16(0)^2 + 100(0) + C \quad C = 50$$

$$s = -16t^2 + 100t + 50$$

$$\text{b) } \frac{dy}{dx} = \sin x + 2 \quad y(2) = 5 \quad (\text{answer to 3 decimals places})$$

$$\text{Find the indefinite integral: } y = -\cos x + 2x + C$$

Then, recognizing that when  $y = 5$ , when  $x = 2$ , we can use substitution to find C...

$$(5) = -\cos(2) + 2(2) + C$$

$$5 = -(-.416) + 4 + C$$

$$5 - .416 - 4 = C$$

$$C = .584$$

$$y = -\cos x + 2x + .584$$

$$\text{c) Find the general solution: } \frac{dy}{dx} = 2xy \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2xy}{1}$$

(cross multiply)

$$1 \, dy = 2xy \, dx$$

separate the variables

$$\frac{1}{y} \, dy = 2x \, dx$$

integrate

$$\int \frac{1}{y} \, dy = \int 2x \, dx$$

$$\ln|y| + C = x^2 + C$$

$$\ln|y| = x^2 + C$$

(convert log function into exponential form)

$$y = e^{x^2 + C}$$

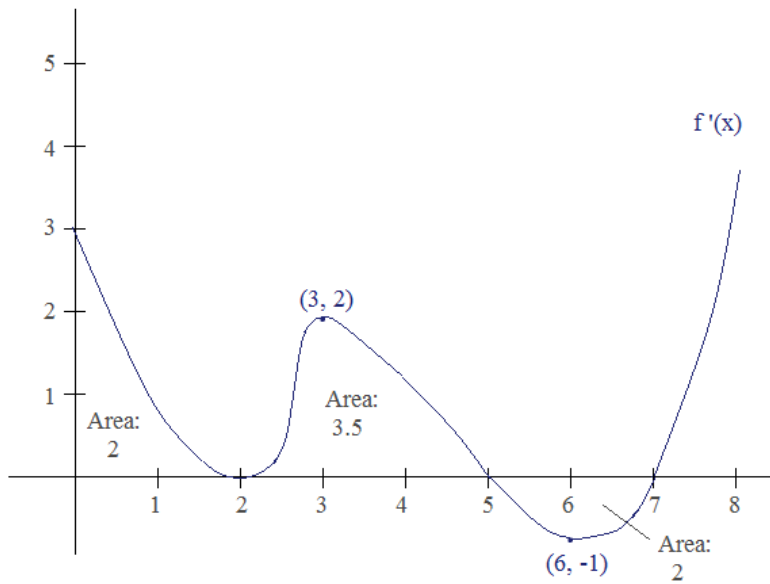
(exponent laws)

$$y = e^{x^2} \cdot e^C$$

(note: since C can be any number, presumably  $e^C$  can be any constant.)

$$y = C e^{x^2}$$

The following is a graph of the *derivative of f(x)*:



a) Where is the local minimum(s)?

In the graph, a local minimum occurs at  $x = 7$ ...

Why? Because the function  $f(x)$  is increasing from 0 to 5... then,  $f(x)$  is decreasing from 5 to 7...

Then,  $f(x)$  is increasing from 7 to 8... If  $f(x)$  goes from decreasing to increasing, then it's a minimum!

b) Where is the absolute (global) minimum? Justify your answer.

We know  $x = 7$  is a minimum... But, is it the *absolute* minimum?

No...  $x = 0$  is the absolute minimum... The function is increasing from 0 to 5...

Then, it decreases from 5 to 7... However, the increasing area (5.5) is more than the decreasing area (2)...

Therefore,  $f(0) < f(7)$

c) Where is the function concave up AND increasing on the interval  $[0, 8]$ ?

Function is increasing when  $f'(x) > 0$ ...  $[0, 2)$   $(2, 5)$   $(7, 8]$

Function  $f(x)$  is concave up when  $f''(x) > 0$  OR when the derivative of  $f'(x)$  is increasing...

In other words, when the above graph has a slope that is positive!

$f(x)$  is concave up:  $(2, 3)$   $(6, 8]$

$(2, 3)$  and  $(7, 8]$

d)  $g(x) = (f(x))^2$  If  $f(3) = 8$ , find the slope of the line tangent to the graph  $g(x)$  at  $x = 3$

To find the slope of tangent line, we need to find the instantaneous rate of change (derivative) of  $g(x)$ ...

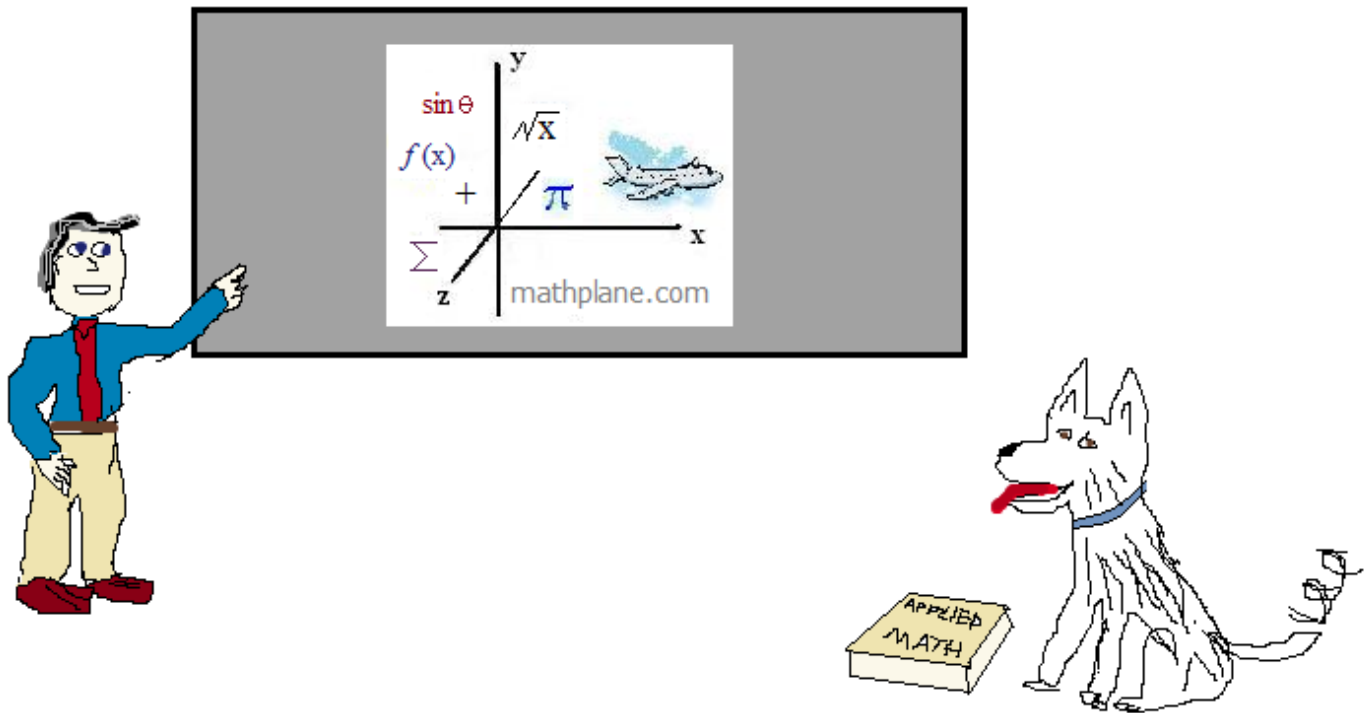
$$g'(x) = 2f(x)^1 \cdot f'(x) \quad (\text{power rule and chain rule})$$

$$g'(3) = 2f(3) \cdot f'(3) = 2(8) \cdot 2 = \boxed{32}$$

Thanks for visiting. (Hope it helps!)

If you have questions, suggestions, or requests, let us know.

Good luck on the test!



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