

SECTION 3-4: DERIVATIVES AS RATES OF CHANGE

Read Section 3.4. Work the embedded problems.

1. The cost in dollars of producing x widgets is given by $C(x) = 6000 + 10x + 0.01x^2$.
 - (a) Find $C(100)$ and $C'(100)$. Include units with your answer.
 - (b) Explain what the numbers in part (a) mean in the context of the problem.
 - (c) If the marginal profit of the widget-making company was negative, what should the company conclude about production?
2. Suppose $p(t)$ gives the number of bacteria in hundreds after t hours in some lab experiment.
 - (a) Interpret $p(10) = 1000$ and $p'(10) = 20$.
 - (b) Estimate the number of bacteria when $t = 11$.
3. Suppose $s(t)$ gives the position of an object where s is measured in feet and t is measured in seconds.
 - (a) Determine the units of $s'(t)$ and $s''(t)$ and interpret them in the context of the problem.
 - (b) If $s'(5) = 20$ and $s''(5) = 2$, estimate $s'(6)$. Is the object speeding up or slowing down?
 - (c) If $s'(5) = 20$ and $s''(5) = -2$, estimate $s'(6)$. Is the object speeding up or slowing down?

4. A potato is launched vertically upward from a platform 20 feet off the ground. The distance in feet that the potato travels from the ground after t seconds is given by $s(t) = -16t^2 + 64t + 20$.
- (a) Find the initial velocity of the potato.

 - (b) Find the velocity and the acceleration of the potato when $t = 1$.

 - (c) Is the potato speeding up or slowing down? Why?

 - (d) What is the velocity of the potato when it reaches its maximum height and why?

 - (e) What is the maximum height of the potato?

 - (f) Assume the potato lands on the ground (not the platform). How long is the potato in the air?

 - (g) What is the velocity of the potato when it hits the ground?

 - (h) You should have observed in part (b) that the acceleration is constant. What does this number represent?